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AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—"The High Road," a play in five acts, by Edward Sheldon, has scored a success at the Hudson Theatre. Mrs. Fiske plays the principal part, and there was cause for rejoicing in her return to the local stage, as any new character that she creates is sure to be an interesting study. In this instance she impersonates a girl in her 'teens named Mary Page, but the period covered by the play is long enough to include the events of a lifetime. Mary is a motherless farmhouse drudge with romantic ideas. She falls a victim to the wiles of Alan Wilson, an art collector, and goes with him into the life whose fascinations he has described to her. After three loveless years of illicit companionship there comes to Mary a moral awakening. Karl Marx's theories have interested her, and she goes to work in a factory. In the meantime she has met John Maddock, the son of a capitalist. Mary interests herself in the underpaid factory girls, and works hard to secure the passage of a Bill for an eight-hour working day. This brings her into contact with Governor Winfield Barnes, who was once a country lawyer in her native village. They fall in love with each other and are married, but not before she has told him the story of her life. Barnes becomes a candidate for the Presidency, and Maddock tries to injure his prospects, knowing, as he does, his wife's history. Threatened with disappointment Barnes almost turns against his wife, but Mary uses certain knowledge she possesses as president of the Women's Trade Union to turn the tables on Maddock, and the latter is defeated.

Mrs. Fiske is seen at her very best in the character of Mary Page. The critics vied with each other in praising her performance. Messrs. Frederick Perry, Charles Waldron, Arthur Byron, and Charles Fisher play important parts particularly well.

There was found to be not the least resemblance between William C. de Mille's play, "The Woman," and Abraham Goldknopf's drama, called "Tainted Philanthropy." The two plays were performed at the Belasco Theatre, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. Judge Holt, of the Federal Court, attended both performances. His decision has not yet been rendered, but the newspapers have treated the matter as a huge joke, and ridiculed Mr. Goldknopf's pretensions.

"The Whip" has scored a sensational success at the Manhattan Opera House, and this big theatre is crowded at every performance, late-comers being unable to obtain seats "for love or money." The comedy scenes proved very enjoyable, thanks to the capital acting of Mr. Ambrose Manning as Tom Lambert and Miss Marie Illington as the Hon. Mrs. Beamish. Miss Evelyn Kerry made herself very popular as Lady Diana Sartoris, and Mr. John Halliday made a good impression as the Earl of Brancaster. Mr. Charles Blackall portrayed the villainy of Captain Greville Sartoris in a highly effective manner, his pusillanimous accomplice, the Rev. Verner Haslam, being well represented by Mr. Lumsden Hare. Miss Leonore Harris appeared as Mrs. D'Aquila, the other member of the unprincipled trio, and played her part to perfection. Mr. Herbert Jarman was very good as the Marquis of Beverly, and a word of praise for their impersonations is due to Messrs. Dion Titheradge, John L. Shine, W. Croft, Horace Pollock, Basil West, and Master Tomlin.

Mme. Simone began her second season in New York at Wallack's Theatre on the 25th ult., appearing in a new four-act comedy, entitled "The Paper Chase," by Louis N. Parker. The scenes are laid in Versailles in ante-revolutionary days, and the story deals with the Court intrigues that presaged the fall of Louis XVI. While several of the characters bear familiar names, the author disclaims any historical foundation for his play, his story being founded on the novel by Henry Mountjoy, entitled "The Minister of Police." Mme. Simone impersonates the Baroness Bettina von Schoenberg, a friend of Marie Antoinette, while Mr. Julian L'Estrange appears as the Marquis of Belange. It appears that the Baroness has a document which the Duke of Richelieu is anxious to obtain, the former having stolen it on behalf of Marie Antoinette. The Duke is anxious to injure the Queen and would publish the contents of the document, but when the Baroness threatens to show it to the King the Duke and his friends are paralysed with fear. The document is hidden in various places, and the Baroness baffles both Richelieu and Belange. As portrayed by Mme. Simone the Baroness had an engaging personality, and her performance was really a brilliant piece of acting, for which she received due credit. Her mastery of the English language, too, is a praiseworthy achievement. The Marquis of Belange was cleverly acted by Mr. L'Estrange, and Mr. Edgar Kent was an excellent Richelieu. Miss Pauline Frederick, who retired from the stage four years ago, made her reappearance as the Marchioness of Joyeuse, and was as charming as ever. Mr. Geoffrey Stein as Lavenne and Miss Edith Cartwright as the Countess of Harlancourt acquitted themselves well. The play was favourably received, and in writing this "irresponsible comedy," as he calls it, Mr. Parker seems to have made a very correct estimate of Mme. Simone's requirements.

"The Sun Dodgers," a musical play in two acts, by Edgar Smith, E. Ray Goetz, and A. Baldwin Sloane, is the current attraction at the Broadway Theatre. "Sun Dodgers," be it remarked, are people who retire at sunrise and rise at sundown, the chief characters in the play being a coterie of gay young men who spend their nights in pleasure seeking. The principal fun-maker is Mr. George Monroe, of "Aunt Bridget" fame, who is always a host in himself and a favourite exponent of broad comedy. As Mrs. Honoria O'Day he provokes no end of laughter, and easily upholds his popularity. The piece is a combination of spectacle, travesty, musical comedy, and vaudeville, and as the mixture was compounded by those who usually gauge public taste to a nicety it proves quite palatable. There are electrical novelties, as well as amusing mechanical effects and sparkling melodies galore. Miss Bessie Wynn has a prominent part, and with Mr. Harry Fisher in an eccentric rôle the piece has no dull moments.

"Mere Man," a comedy in three acts, by Augustus Thomas, has scored a failure at the Harris Theatre, and has been withdrawn after a brief run. Woman suffrage, horoscope reading, and the foundation of good government were some of the subjects the dramatist dealt with. Miss Crystal Herne appeared as a lady astrologer The dialogue was clever and interesting at times, but the critics protested their inability to discover what the author was driving at.

Mr. John E. Kellerd has leased the Garden Theatre, and is appearing there in an excellent revival of "Hamlet." He has engaged a strong cast, and has earned unanimous praise for his own performance of the title-rôle. The principal parts are distributed as follows:—Ophelia, Miss Margaret Campbell; Gertrude, Miss Amelia Gardner; Claudius, Mr. Charles A. Stevenson; Ghost, Mr. Theodore Roberts; Horatio, Mr. Harvey Braban; Polonius, Mr. Elwyn Eaton; Laertes, Mr. Edward Mackay; and First Gravedigger, Mr. Theodore Hamilton.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—"Hindle Wakes" was performed for the first time in America at Maxine Elliott's Theatre on the 9th inst. Mr. Herbert Lomas's portrayal of the [illegible]de Jeffcote is truthful and natural to a [illegible] Mr. James C. Taylor's Christopher [illegible] masterly embodiment. Fanny Ha[illegible] interesting figure, and she has a fai[illegible]ntative in Miss Emilie Polini. Mrs. Hawthorn's bluntness and determination are cleverly depicted by Miss Alice O'Dea. It was evident from the start that Miss O'Dea had this strong character well in hand, and the audience plainly enjoyed her capital performance. Mr. Roland Young's Alan Jeffcote, Mr. Charles F. Lloyd's Sir Anthony Farrar, Miss Alice Chapin's Mrs. Jeffcote, Miss Dulcie Conry's Beatrice Farrar, and Miss Katherine MacPherson's Ada, are excellent impersonations. In short, the representation was creditable to all concerned, and the play made a vivid impression.

Mme. Alla Nazimova was married in New York recently to Mr. Charles E. Bryant, who is now appearing with her in "Bella Donna" at the Empire Theatre. Mme. Nazimova has become one of the foremost actresses on the American stage, although it is but a few years since she left Russia understanding only her own language.

"Rutherford and Son," with Mr. Norman McKinnel, will be the next production at the Little Theatre. Mr. Winthrop Ames owns the American rights of "The Eldest Son," but this play will not be done here until next season.

The Children's Theatre, on the roof of the Century, will have for its opening attraction next week a play called "Racketty-Packetty House," and Master Gabriel, who is two feet high and used to play "Buster Brown," will appear as Peter Piper, a doll, who dwells in a castle that has fallen into such a dilapidated state as to be known as "Racketty-Packetty House."

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The new Cort Theatre had an auspicious opening on the 20th inst., the initial attraction being pronounced a great success. "Peg o' My Heart" is the play's title, and the author is Mr. J. Hartley Manners. He wrote the play for Miss Laurette Taylor, a young American actress who has lately come to the front, and whose spontaneity and naturalness have won for her no little praise during the last few years. Now she is a star, and of the first magnitude if popularity counts for anything, as she received quite an ovation on the opening night of the play under notice. Peg O'Connell is a little Irish-American girl who comes into a fortune and returns to the old country to be brought up by haughty relatives whose sensibilities are shocked by her ignorance of the world of fashion and its ways. Peg is a diamond in the rough, a winsome, irresistible creature who wins everybody's heart ere the curtain falls, and the part was delightfully acted by Miss Taylor.

Mr. H. Reeves-Smith appeared as Jerry, a friend of the family, and his impersonation contributed materially to the success of the play. Other rôles were admirably filled by Messrs. Hassard Short, Clarence Handyside, Reginald Mason, and Peter Bassett; Misses Emilie Melville and Cristine Norman. The new Cort Theatre is in West Forty-eighth-street. It is a very beautiful and comfortable house in the Louis XVI. style, with a seating capacity of 1,000.

Miss Annie Russell and her Old English Comedy company appeared in Sheridan's four-act comedy, "The Rivals," at the Thirty-ninth-street Theatre on the 16th inst. Miss Russell was seen as Lydia Languish, and Mr. George Giddens played Bob Acres; while Mrs. Malaprop was acted by Miss ffolliott Paget. An excellent representation was given, the performance being greatly enjoyed by a well-filled house.

"The Indiscretion of Truth," a comedy-drama, in four acts, by J. Hartley Manners, was recently produced at the Harris Theatre, and proved to be a new dramatic version of Wilkie Collins's story, "Man and Wife." The play was a failure, and had a very brief run.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will not play in New York during her present American tour. She will visit Chicago, Milwaukee, Seattle, Portland, Tacoma, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The tour covers Martin Beck's vaudeville circuit, and the engagement is for twenty weeks. Mme. Bernhardt's salary, it is said, is $8,000 per week.

Miss Valli Valli and Mr. Clifton Crawford have joined the Weber and Fields company to play important parts in "Roly Poly" at the new music hall. Miss Marie Dressler, who was appearing there, became dissatisfied, and sent in her resignation. Miss Helena Collier Garrick has taken her place.

"TWICE NIGHTLY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Perhaps you will allow me to say, in answer to various people who have written to me respecting my letter on "Twice Nightly," that I certainly think a considerable number of plays can be well and adequately produced under these conditions, but these plays must be carefully selected, and when "cut" the "cuts" must be judiciously done; also there should be a "double cast" of the principal parts, or, in any case, capable understudies. No doubt at one time more than two performances of a play were given in the course of an evening; I have heard of a dozen being given in a day, but modern audiences are more exacting than the audiences of years ago, and I maintain that if two performances of equal calibre are to be given of the same play in one evening by the same people, there must be a certain interval between these performances.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.

December 24, 1912.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

At the Mechanics' Hall, Dumfries, on Monday and Tuesday, Mr. W. Payne Seddon presented Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in "The Girl in the Train." The principal characters of President Van Eyck and Gonda Van der Loo were represented by Mr. Claud Cameron and Miss Violet Rangdale with pronounced success. Miss Dorothy Milford as Adeline played her part in a most effective manner. Mr. Bertram White scored a success as Karel Van Buren. The rest of the company, which was a strong one, lent admirable support.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

[In consequence of pressure on our space certain of our Provincial Reports are omitted this week].

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Dd. Jones; Manager, Mr. Cass Renso.—This week: First three nights, Douglas and Gordon in "Scotch and Polly"; Lively Lil Anton, soubrette; Mog Morgan, Welsh character vocalist; and pictures. Last three nights, Miss Inez Howard's company in "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Messrs. H. G. Cooper, Dl. Greene, W. H. Baker, C. Roberts, E. V. Wyndham, R. Hope, S. Fiennes, G. J. Dunsdan, T. Turner, J. North, T. Bridge, Misses B. Fitzhugh, J. Hammerton, P. Massey, Eda Davis, P. Desmond, Tiny Dorothy Glade, and Enid Wilde.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Wm. Mitchell.—This week: The Five Dancing Derbys, vocalists and dancers; Royburn and Dix, in "Skits on the 'Phone"; the Kingstons, in vocal and musical scena; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, W. Davies and Co.; Manager, Mr. W. Davies.—This week: Danite and Dande, comedians; Vera Dell, comedienne and dancer; Dugarde, musical speciality artiste; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Musical-Director, Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week: Mr. Tom B. Davis presents his pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty."

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Leipzig, conjurer; Gulliver, and the doll with the laugh; Hinton and Wootton, cyclists; George Walker and Jessie Bunting, in Scotch burlesque; Helen Martin, vocalist; Ernest Leigh and Doreen Drew, in comedy act; Alan Borthwick and company, in "Half-a-dollar"; and pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Wallace Selkirk presents "The Handy Man"; W. Kingsley, bell soloist; George Arnott, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred. W. Green.—This week: "The Easiest Way." The company includes: Miss Elsie Goulding, Miss Norah Vaughan, Miss Bessie Frank, Miss Sybil Claymore, Miss Lillian Belmore, Mr. J. Edward Pearce, Mr. E. Rayson Cousens, and Mr. Arthur Murray. The Touring-Manager is Mr. Pringle Roberts.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians in "The Mumming Birds" and "The Wow Wows"; Walter Lawley and Sadie East in a musical comedietta, "A Chance Acquaintance"; Jaap Van Larem, in a slack wire act; Jean Kram, juggling comedian; the Franlyns, vocalists and dancers; Harriss Cooney, comedian and expert dancer; and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. Havelock Bowker.—This week: The Norman Bros., vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Manager, Mr. H. Wilson.—This week: Mr. G. Thornton's orchestra, selections on the gramophone, and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; General-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Willats.—At Mr. Sounes' house of amusement this week, Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company present "A Trip to Chinatown." Those responsible for the representation are: Miss Ada Tilley, Miss Marie Churchill, Miss Hilda Attenborough, Miss Gwenora Thayer, Miss Evelyn Petherick, Miss Sybil Mudie, Mr. Amyr Vane, Mr. Edward De Vere, Fred Lytton, Mr. Jack Hillier, Mr. Randolph Churchill, Mr. Richard C. Wagner, Mr. Fred Young, and Mr. Bertram Dempster. Next week: The pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

ARBROATH.

PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. B. M. Fox.—This week: Will Murray's star variety company. Will Murray, in the absurdity, "Bank Holiday in Casey's Court"; Nan Manning, serio and dancer; Ellien and May, in a musical act; Yorkshire Tom, mimic; James Stockton, double-voiced vocalist; Charles Bradley, speciality dancer; Marion Forester and company, in dramatic episode, "A Society Sinner."

OLYMPIA.—Manager, Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: David Fuller, operatic baritone and actor-vocalist; Murphy and Mack, in "The Major's Reflection"; Daisy and Dots, juvenile singers and dancers; Herman and Evelyn, pot-pourri wire act; and pictures.

MELVIN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Pantomime by local children.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly): Hanvarr and Anna Lee, the Musical Schafers, Pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.

PAVILION VARIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): Tudora's Clever Ponies, the Two Tomboys, Andrew Macmanus, comedian and dancer; the Urmas, dancers and gymnasts; the Racine Trio, in musical act; Lewis and Lansky, Hebrew comedians; Maude Lorette, male impersonator; pictures.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb.—This week (twice nightly): The Housins and It; the St. Georges, entertainers, vocalists, and dancers; Chas. d'Elroy, juggler and conjurer; Two Barlings, vocalists and instrumentalists.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. John Boyle; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood present "An Indian Curse." The company includes: Arthur Hinton, Royce Carleton, Frank McClellan, Forbes Harrison, Alfred G. Raymond, Leonard Gardiner, Mark Adams, Miss Ethel Monton, Miss Pauline Hayden, Miss Annette Howard, Miss Maisie Bell, Miss Bertha Felsing, Miss Kitty Thornton, Miss Rose Kocher, Miss Norma Craig, Miss Violet Hebditch, Miss Dolly Wallace, Miss Timmy Hope, Miss Molly Ward, Miss Maimie West, Miss Isa Clarke, Miss Esme Gorton, Miss Nellie Davis, Miss May Wright, Miss Jean Marsden, Miss Florence Zillwood. Touring-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hinton.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Empire Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Carrick.—This week: The Five X Rays, mad athletes; Little Ganty, Nanty from Newmarket; Kate and Dorothy Hughes, at the piano; Madge May, comedienne; Musical Silvo, musical glasses; Le Blond and Sisters Ol Dare, gymnasts; and pictures.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Thomson and Metcalfe.—An excellent programme here includes Wright Aitken, in sketch.

PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietors, The Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of Barnsley; Lessees, The Royal York Picture Co.—J. F. Franklin's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is occupying the boards here.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. Campbell presents "The Queen Mother." The company includes: Mr. Richard Bosco, Mr. Herbert Mansfield, Mr. Frank Strickland, Mr. Wm. Lenton, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Arthur Denton, Mr. Eric Morder, Mr. Douglas Tremayne, Mr. Wilton Reed, Mr. John Rimmer, Master Frank Beresford, Miss Ruth Zillwood, Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Lina Nazeby, Miss Etter Arnold, Miss Mary Fulton. Touring-Manager, Mr. Douglas Tremayne. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Brewster's Millions."

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Newham; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): George Lashwood, comedian; Great Scott, the ladder king; Edith Fink; Zade Bros., gymnasts; Spencer and Spiel, comedy duo; Sisters Caselli, singers and dancers; George E. Walker, comedian; the Corona Gatty Trio.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Tours, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Illustrated songs, and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Attila Bros., Bert Danson, Mai, Ivy and Daisy Gilby, and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard Carr.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes' production, "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Lionel Victor, Miss Blanche Tomlin, Miss Mary Ridley, Mr. P. A. Gawthorne, Mr. Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred Henri, Mr. Arthur H. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Maidie Andrews. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Pearce; Manager, Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson; Dervaux, female impersonator; Pat Lynch, dancer; Little Phil, vocalist; Wentworth and Weaver, comedy pianists; Winifred Ellis, vocalist; Four Charles; pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Draycott.—This week: Mr. Fred Le Cren's company in "Sinbad the Sailor," including Adah Le Cren and the Bros. Oxo. Twice nightly.

CINEMA, VICTORIA HALL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Draycott.—Pictures.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Undoubtedly Mr. Fred W. Warden's Christmas pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," is enjoying a huge measure of success, packed houses being the rule. Miss Violet Lloyd in the leading rôle of Jack has firmly established herself a great favourite, her rendering nightly of "My heart is with you to-night" creating unbounded enthusiasm. Miss Ruby Roya's singing of "Oh, that music" gains this talented artist deserved encores nightly, and Mr. Phil Smith as the Dame keeps vast audiences in shrieks of laughter while he occupies the stage. As the Prince, Mr. Dave Laud renders "Paree" in dashing style; and one of the song hits of the pantomime, "Take me back to the garden of love," so charmingly rendered by Miss Eleanor Wilson as the Fairy, is now being whistled all over the city. Other song successes are "Patricia," "My cider farm in Brittany," "You all want something to cuddle." The pantomime will deservedly run many weeks afterwards, being transferred to Dublin.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction this week is "From Washerwoman to Duchess," presented by Mrs. Frank Bateman and company, who are completing the last six nights of their engagement here. In the rôle of Mlle. Sans-Gêne Catherine, Mrs. Frank Bateman exhibited no little skill, her acting being quite irreproachable; and Mr. Fred W. Goddard was most successful in his treatment of Lieut. Bonaparte, afterwards Emperor Napoleon. Sergt. Lefebre, afterwards Duke of Dantzic, was admirably suited to Mr. Harry Aynsleigh; and Miss Camille Treherne appeared to advantage as Empress Marie Louise. Miss Lilian Lovell acquitted herself creditably as Jean de Montbello, and La Violette was in the safe hands of Mr. Charles Adeson. Other rôles were adequately sustained by Miss Marion Vyner, Miss Maud Taylor, Miss May Language, Miss Grace Hooper, and Messrs. R. Monteigle, E. Went, Geo. Leslie, Percy Shaw, Frank Webber, H. Osborne, Hill Cremer, etc. Last night (Friday) Mrs. Frank Bateman took a well-deserved benefit, when "She Gave Her Life" was produced.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Managing-Director, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson. — For the second and concluding week of engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey, "The Wearin' o' the Green" is staged. As Barney O'Hea, Mr. Chalmers Mackey was quite inimitable, keeping the audience in roars of laughter; and the rôle of Nora McCraith was charmingly played by Mrs. Chalmers Mackey. Mr. J. P. McBride admirably sustained the rôle of Shamus McDermott; and that able actor, Mr. Charles M. Julian (who also acts as general-manager of the company) realistically portrayed the rôle of Conner Martin, Sheriff's officer. The rôle of Sir George Courtenay was well sustained by Mr. T. R. Nugent, and Mr. Frank Dalton is worthy of praise for his impersonation of Michael Kenny. Miss Jeanette Lyons would indeed be difficult to excel as Mrs. McDermott; and other rôles were efficiently interpreted by Miss Maud Lilian, Miss Desborough, Miss Nora Desmond, Miss Amy Manfree (whose songs were a great attraction), Messrs. Dennis Mackey, J. Neville, Joseph Healy, Conn Mackey, and Fred Williamson.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is provided by the Harmony Four, who gained an instantaneous success with their original musical comedy. Messrs. Sheldon Buckley's company stage with great effect the one-act play, "Captain Careless, V.C.," by Geo. Sheldon. The Three Bros. Riegels execute some marvellous acrobatic feats; and also here are Lilian Gould, vocalist; the Three Lascelles, in "The Aviators"; Bertini, a first-class piper, and "Bhoy Mike"; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is filled by the Rawsons (Maggie and Jack), society entertainers, whose reception has been enthusiastic. The Five Bombays delight all with their singing and dancing act; and Miss Eva Le Clerq is a most capable comedienne with good songs. The acrobatic act of the Lizette Trio may truly be described as wonderful; and also here are Harry Arthurs, chorus comedian; Nellie Scott, comedienne; Rosa Hamel, in sketching act; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—This week: Selwyn and Willows, wizards of the punch ball; Wills and Warlock, in their singing and dancing act; and pictures.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Leslie and Leighth, in song and rag-time dances; Mr. Harry Tomlin, actor vocalist; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Ferris Pounds. — This week: Mr. Joe Brady, Irish comedian; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Du Rocher.—This week: The sporting drama, "A Criminal's Bride," is being presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, including Mr. Harry T. Wood, Mr. Annesley Hely, Mr. Victor Howard, Mr. Edwin Ling, Mr. Percy Boucher, Mr. Chas. Digby, Miss Doris Ward, Miss Francis J. May, Miss Nelly Kruth, and Miss Rene Belle Douglas.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: The Musical Palmers (5 M.P.'s); Daisy Almer, the girl in clogs; and pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Musical-Director, Mr. B. Srawley.—Mr. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," concludes a most successful engagement on Jan. 4. Next week: "Katawampus."

HIPPODROME. — Managing - Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Tomlinson.—Miss Edith M. Clare's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," performed twice nightly, continues a triumphal career.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): George Carney, in "The Fool of the Force"; Sharp's Tromboneers; Vera Wootton, comedienne; Dorothy Carmen and Co., in musical comedy act; the Schillotts, in shadow pantomime; Bros. Lawler, in dancing act; Arthur Sutcliffe, comedienne; Syd May, mimic; pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietors, Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstn.—Business with "Twinkle Little Star" since the opening night has continued good, and the management are confident of a success. Marriott Edgar as the Dame, and George Ali as the Dog, have made the hits in the comedy line, and one could not imagine a more natural and delightful principal boy than Lulu Valli; Irene Dillon is giving every satisfaction with her rag-time numbers, but on Monday she had the misfortune to lose her voice. However, she returned later in the week. During her absence the role of Twinkle Star was creditably taken by Miss Ivy Ray.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. E. Cox.—Once nightly, pantomime, "Cinderella."

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Messrs. Alexander and Skardon; General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Messrs. Alexander and Skardon's company render (twice nightly) in very interesting dramatic fashion the play, "Driving a Girl to Destruction," prominent in the cast being Mr. Louis Lingard, Mr. Bert Oates, Mr. Henri Steward, Miss Louie Lonora, Miss Lilian Maitland, and Miss Ada Champion.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Bebby; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, assisted by Mlle. Marjah, presents a beautiful dancing and posing act, and a scene from "The Miracle" play, in which Mlle. Lorraine appears as the Nun. A very humorous sketch, "The Concealed Bed," is given by Graham Moffat's company of Scottish players; the Stowe Bros. are clever acrobats; the Fourteen Rag-time Tromboneers appear with effect; and some capital fun is introduced by Edwin Laurence as Scroggy, the scout; Dave Bryant, comedian; and Alf Chester, comedian.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. F. Coward.—Gene Greene, in his rag-time numbers, has a rousing reception; an amusing sketch, "A Double's Troubles," is given by the Potts Bros.; Frank and Vesta give some smart rag-time dancing; and a unique acrobatic turn is given by the Four Arconis. Gus Garrick has some good songs and patter; Leslie Harris gives an entertaining performance at the piano; Gracie Gerald is a smart comedienne; and the Stein Esthor Troupe, good comedy acrobats.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Hamilton. — Miss Charlotte Parry appears in a strong dramatic production "The Comstock Mystery," in which she impersonates no fewer than seven characters. An excellent farcical sketch, "Rogers," is played by J. P. Gillen's company; Mlle. Lolita gives a series of beautiful poses; Harry Taft whistles cleverly, and has some genial chaff; Harry Ellis and Tom McKenna are capital vocalists; Victor Kelly is highly amusing with his eccentricities; the Christie Duo are clever dancers; and Mabel Moss, a smart comedienne.

GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bellian.—Tarro Myaki, the famous ju-jitsu wrestler, is appearing here with great success, and is having some very interesting bouts with local champions. A very amusing sketch, "The Dinner Hour," is presented by Ted Karno and company; Archie Mills is a versatile light comedian; the Gleams present an able Anglo-Scottish comedy act; the Enzer Trio give a smart juggling performance; the Balmorals, a good musical act; the Osrams, clever dancing; and Jack Oswald, comedian, also appears.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—T. Elder Hearn adds further interest to an already capital entertainment by distributing postal orders among the audience. An original comedy acrobatic entertainment is given by the Aralus; Donna Rita and Fred Roma give good comedy items; Tiny Arnold is a smart comedienne; and Jimmy Walsh, a good comedian. Nellie Wheeler, comedian; and Ethel Stephenson, a vocalist of merit, are also in the bill.

NEW PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Anthony. Twice nightly: Pictures; Allen and White, comedy acrobats; David Stewart; and Bradshaw and Brooks.

BLACKPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—This week (once nightly): Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart presents "Alias Jimmy Valentine." The company includes: Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, Mr. John Richter, Mr. Henry Lloyd, Mr. Dan Mining, Mr. Arnold O. Roper, Mr. Raymond de Claise, Mr. Dunstan Leech, Mr. Wm. Lawrence, Mr. Anthony Calvert, Mr. Arthur Hewlett, Mr. Richard Minton, Mr. Fred Dalton, Master James Hill, Miss Queenie Stanley, Miss Maisie Richardson, Miss Olive Brook, Miss A. Bruce-Joy. Preceded by "The Touch of Truth." Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly), Ludwig Amann, impersonator; Molly Wells, singer, accompanied by Frank Mayban; Smite and Smote, comedy acrobats; Walter Saxby, eccentric comedian; Ted Waite, comedian; Gilbert Girard; pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Allan Aynesworth presents "Ready Money." The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. Laurence Ward, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. W. Green, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Wilfred Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Adelaide Tanne, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Dorothy Sinclair Smith, Miss Olivia Glynn. Touring-Manager, Mr. A. E. Bishop. Matinées, Wednesday and Thursday, at 2.30. Next week: "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Hippodrome, Bolton, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur H. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Richard Nightingale presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Dolly Ross, Miss Gladys Henderson, Jimmy Goode, Bob Stevens, Billy Fauder, Tew and Lea, Barbendo, Fred Preston, Miss Susie Marney, Miss May Beaumont, Miss Frances Henderson, Miss Ruth Beaumont, Miss Lillian Devon, Miss Nellie Mascott. Touring-Manager, Mr. Bert Delmar. Matinée, Monday and Wednesday, at 2.30.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. Booth. — This week (twice nightly): Yuma, the mystery; Alburtus the First and Jessie Millar, assisted by Dollie; May Newall, vocalist; Tom E. Dean, comedian; Hampton [illegible] Bauman, character duettists; C. Charlton, [illegible]er; Louis Guertin, athlete; Ernest Krake and Co. present "The Electric Tram Conductor"; pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, at 2.30.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. S. Charlton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Whitlock.—This week: Miss Marie Studholme, the popular musical comedy actress, in a comedy sketch, "Her Ladyship," supported by Miss Tiny Grattan, Mr. Cecil Burt, and Mr. Walter Pierce; Mr. Harry Grattan appearing in comedy sketch, "Packing Up," written by himself, in which he is assisted by Miss Violet Walker. The programme also includes the Four Kemptons, the singing and dancing quartette; Grandpierre, that 'cello man, with Gustave at the piano; Potter, the American Scot; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic; and Violet Romney, entertainer in comedy and chorus songs; and pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.

WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager and Musical-Director, Dan Godfrey.—This week: Monday afternoon, popular programme; Monday evening, special programme; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 8, and Tuesday and Wednesday at 3, the Imperial Russian Ballet of 40 performers; Thursday afternoon, symphony concert; Friday afternoon, children's matinée; Friday evening, children's fancy dress ball; Saturday afternoon, Miss Ellen Terry in "The Heroines of Shakespeare"; and Saturday evening, popular overtures.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—"The House that Jack Built," a notice of which appears elsewhere in our columns, gives every promise of ranking amongst Mr. Hart's most successful pantomimes.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; General-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Yearsley.—"Cinderella," a notice of which appeared in our last edition, is now smoothly launched, and already gives promise of a successful run.

THE EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Herbert Darnley's company on a return visit in the uproariously funny sketch, "Potts in Port," and with the inimitable Fred Kitchen in the part of Potts, is a big feature of the fine bill in this week; Mr. Kitchen is again capitally supported. Walton Bellonini, with his juggling feats supplies a fine turn, ably assisted by his own attendant; Dort and Leonard, in an absurd bedroom scene, supply something novel in the way of acrobatic comedy which is clever and very laughable; Williams and Segal are fine step dancers of the American type, and tastefully costumed; the Four Vagabonds win applause for delightful harmony, which includes a fine rendering of "The Rosary"; admirable mimicry of well-known actors and comedians wins for Mr. Wilfred Burnand well merited marks of appreciation; an exceedingly clever vocal and dancing speciality is presented to applause by Kathleen O'Hanlon and Kar Rivkin; Kitty Wager is a charming comedienne; Fred Poplar is amusing with his burlesque acting; and the pictures are entertaining.

PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The attractive bill here this week is full of merit. J. F. Elliston's company, including the Meymotts, present a most humorous and cleverly constructed sketch, "In the Future, 1952," which is splendidly received and the Ko Tenichi Troupe of Japanese conjurers give an entertainment which is mystifying and remarkably clever and novel; the Menzies amuse with their absurdity, "That Talkative Party"; Conway George gives some excellent vocal and character impressions; a pleasing and clever novelty, in the shape of a "Mirror Act and Dances," is presented by the Lillies; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne, sings capital chorus songs; Les Yosts are smart and highly entertaining comedy coloured clay modellers; Buck Baker, the cowboy, presents with success his romantic Western love story, "Pete, the Sheriff," and there are some entertaining pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" is attracting large audiences.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week: Tim Carlisle, comedian; Master James Garnett, in a musical turn; Deane Tribune and Estelleta Gerrero, in the comedy mélange "A Gay Deceiver"; Jean Harkness and Phillip Leslie, in the

"Methinks our garments are now as fresh as when we put them on first."
—*The Tempest.*

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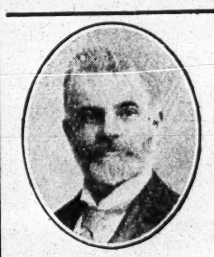

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NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE, LTD.
Managing Director, W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.

December 5, 1912.

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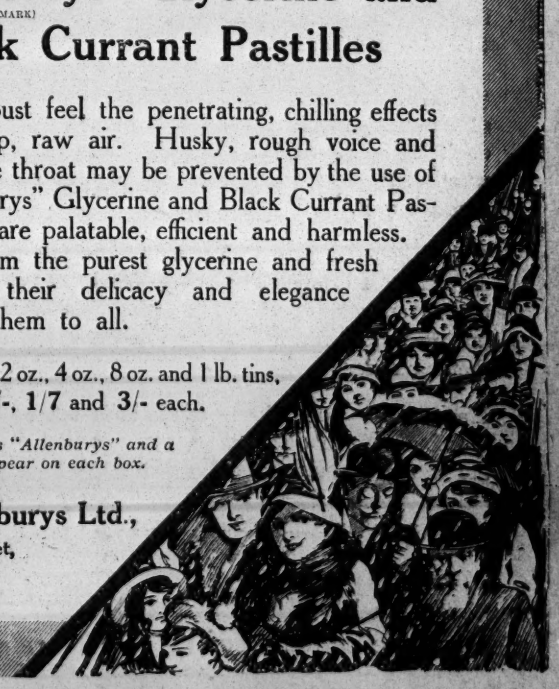

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nedy sketch "The Key of the Situation"; aud Tiffany, American comedienne; Tom E. ughes, comedian; the Four Clovelly Girls, club ggglers.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Philip lichael Faraday's company is still here with The Chocolate Soldier." The chief characters re sustained by Miss Margaret Ismay, Miss velyn Vernham, Miss May Tomlinson, Miss May Clarke, Mr. Charles R. Walenn, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, Mr. Frederick Leigh, and Mr. Jack Martin.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. choley.—"Jelf's" is proving very attractive here. liss Grace Denbeigh-Russell achieves much success as Lady Fenella; Mr. George Twyman presents a masterly enactment of Richard Jelf; Miss Edith Crutkshanks is a diverting Countess; Mr. Arthur McCulloch gives a fine portrayal of Sir Jonathan Dunn; Mr. Vincent W. Lawson is excellent as James Palliser; and Mr. Drake Ouston is amusing as the Hon. Archibald Mull.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, The Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; Resident-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J Ellis Miller; Musical-Director, Mr. G. R. Chapman; Stage-Manager, Mr. Henry Turner.—The pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is proving extremely attractive; it now plays closely and with admirable smartness. All the principals have settled down ino their respective parts, and are becoming very popular. The principals, Miss Winifred Ward, Miss Norah Grey, Mr. George French, Mr. William Pringle, Mr. Tom Conway, Messrs. Fame and Fortune, Mr. Sam Lockwood, and Miss Beatrice Collier, are all admirable; the scenery is exceptionally good, some of the sets being most imposing; the dances by the ballet are all pretty and well done; the speciality dances by the Olympian Quartette, the Misses Nelly Birtles, Winnie Wragg, Dolly Symmons, and Violet Blackburn, are attractive, as also is the dancing of Miss Beatrice Collier (the Princess Haidee), and the various songs are all well selected and capitally rendered.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; General Manager, Mr. Fred W. Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"Cinderella" is proving an attractive pantomime in every respect, and the attendance is quite satisfactory at each performance. A second notice of this pantomime appears in another column.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. S. Green; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard W. Galpin. —"The Sands o' Dee" water spectacle continues to be attractive for a third week. The Grotesques amuse with their burlesque, "The Village Concert"; the Joseph Aldelmann Family present an admirable musical turn; Charles Kasrac and company score with their tumbling, etc., turn; Doroswami does some clever work with the violin; Raffin's Monkeys, presented by Mme. Lavinia, display exceptionally clever training; Josephine La Barte is a pleasing and successful vocalist, and accompanies herself on the piano; O'Gust is a clever imitator of animals, etc.; and there are some interesting bioscope pictures.

EMPIRE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas; Musical-Director, Mr. Louis Gowrvitch.—Fred Edwards, comedian, assisted by Kathleen Yates, entertain successfully with their clever sketch, "Kleptomaniacs"; Sidney E. Camp and Dora Critic score with their screaming farce, "Waxworks"; Lena Robbie is a pleasing serio and dancer; Smaragda's Cats are trained to a wonderful degree of excellence; Len Evans, light comedian, obtains considerable appreciation; Frank Cumminger is an expert at sand dancing; the Five Poncherrys do a clever wire act; Rose and Chaloner, in their refined comedy act, are successful with imitations, etc.; and Lillian Finlan, vocalist and pianist, does a pleasing turn. She has a good mezzo-soprano voice, and sings with expression. Interesting pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter; Musical-Director, Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Herr Hagedorn's Water Fairies present a pretty turn; they dance cleverly and otherwise disport themselves beside an exceptionally attractive and beautifully illuminated prismatic fountain. The Seven Bramusas do a clever musical turn, entitled "Music Afloat," their set scene, "The Deck of the s.s. Bramusa," being excellently staged. The Dorinos give a clever dancing act in their set scene, "The Dancing Academy." Harry Halsey, comedian, amuses with his speciality, "Curtains." Lively Lily Burnand sings three songs successfully, and the choruses are well taken up. Victor and Vera perform some remarkable feats of strength. Dora Trevelyan is a pleasing soprano vocalist; and Peter and Potts amuse with their speciality, "The Comedian and the Call Boy." Pictures conclude.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Musical-Director, Mr. Frederic Fey.—The special vocalists for the week include Carl Osmond, double-voiced vocalist; Denise Irving, soprano; and Walter Denver, tenor. Hamilton's Excursions and Divrama of "The Holy Land" is very interesting and attractive; and excellent pictures complete.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—From pantomime back to drama, with Mr. Beaudyn's company in Walter Howard's military drama, "Second to None." The company includes: Mr. Wm. Melvyn, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Wm. Calvert, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. George Overs, Mr. Cecil Renton, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Chas. Carren, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): M. Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoil le Noir and Co.; Louie Tracy, dapper dandy boy; Cestria, juggler; Hicks and Blair, in "The Burglars"; Myles Parker, vocalist; Kid Orlando, in novelty act; John Paley, cornet virtuoso; Les Fansettes; Ryder Slone, character comedian; pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre; Manager, Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): King and Benson, comedy duo; Lievin and Pantzer, in speciality act; the Gilberts; Eileen Hall, soprano; Wilton Howard Duo; Frank Cass, comedian; the Motley Four; pictures.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Beaudyn; Manager, Mr. E. G. Lord.—This week: George St. Helen, vocalist; Arthur Dowler, comedian; and pictures.

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—This week: Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company with "Our Miss Gibbs." Cast includes: Messrs. Sinclair Holden, Collins Rolfe, Wilfred Norman, Benson North, Leslie Winter, Noel Spencer, Chris Wren, Misses Kitty Hyde, Mona Glynn, Aubrey Ashton, Olive Sparke, and Florence Ray.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—This week: Phil Rabey, chorus vocalist; Hartley and Vivienne, in comedy act; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Sims.—This week: The Ketos, eccentrics; Sisters Fantozz, juvenile musicians; Lilly Lester, juvenile comedienne and mimic; Beale and Broadway, in harmony and dancing act; Omo and Oma, in comedy wire act; Maxford and O'Neil, patter comedians; Bert Earle, jumper and eccentric dancer; Jim Nolan, versatile comedian; and pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—For the first half of this week Mr. C. Vernon Proctor's company appears in "What Happened to Jones." The company includes: Messrs. Chas. Sewell, G. Carleton-Crowe, Frank Venn, Raymond Dudley, Claude Seaton, John Sirwill, and C. Vernon Proctor; Misses Harrietta Polini, Nancy Clutterbuck, Sara Dudley, Christine Jenson, Connie Meadows, and Miss Amy Rudd.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. T. Boucher; Deputy, Mr. G. Taylor.—This week: Carmo, the master phantasist, lightning impersonations, occult creations, etc.; Fritz Kling, the musical tramp; Maisie Goyne, comedienne and coon delineator; Kelso and George, in humorous episodes, Yorkshire and other shires; Will Blanche, comedian; René Thorne, ballad vocalist; Mona Garrick, the Sarah Bernhardt of the variety stage, in scenes and characters from famous plays. Musical-director, Mr. Percy Goddard.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: T. W. Barrett, "the nobleman's son"; Cissie Lupino, speciality and character dances; the Tarrellis, with a piano and a voice; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. le Roy. Next week: Marie Santoi and her merry Japs.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—This week, matinée, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2: Milton Bode's pantomime. "Jack and the Beanstalk," produced by Mr. Augustus Hammond. The company includes: Miss Nan Chester. Miss Aimee Gray, Miss Ilma Warne, Miss Maisie Dene, Miss Nellie Comber, Mr. Bert Moreland, Mr. Bert Maddison, Messrs. Walter Thorne, Jess Sweet, Bert Terrell, and Fred Miller.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. Fred Hawkins.—This week: Chevalier and Rego, in piano and singing act; James Bendon, whistling newsboy; Marquis and Truly, comedy musical burlesque; Fred W. Egan, dancer; La Dellosque, gymnast; Cullen and Emery, comedy artistes, in "The Slavey and the Bootblack"; and Chronophone pictures at intervals. Conductor, Mr. Davis.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Maggie Bowman, Miss Nita Dunville, Mr. Harry Gilmore, Mr. Fred Dunville, Mr. Tom Owen, Mr. Tom Morton, Wheeler and Wilson, Miss Lizette Kitchin, Mr. W. H. Gatty, Miss Roberta Williams, Miss Renee Gem, and Miss Florence Woolley.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert L. Taylor; Musical-Director, Mr. D. Griffiths.—This week (twice nightly): Arthur Roberts presents "Till Sunday"; Jock McKay, Scotch humorist; Herbert La Martine, dancer; Charburn's Young Stars; Marjorie Dawson, the crinoline girl; Keen and Waller, comedy artistes; Harry Sims, comedian; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon, contralto and tenor; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Brown; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred. Burns.—This week (once nightly): Oswald Gray and Co. in "The Mormon and His Wives." The company includes: Mr. Oswald Cray, Mr. David Blair, Mr. William H. Burton, Mr. Macintosh Clyde, Mr. Bert H. Reynolds, Mr. Harold Stephens, Mr. Leslie Howard, Mr. Leonard H. Rooke, Mr. G. W. Wright, Mr. Ernest A. Duval, Mr. Charles Fields, Miss Helen Lowther, Miss Pattie Dene, Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Miss Mamie Reindeer, and Miss Sybil [illegible]e. Matinee, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): "1,000 to 1 Against"; Florence Cooper, contralto; The Payolas, in athletic novelty; MacMahon and Dufor present "The Sleeping Car"; Sam Osborne, comedian; Graham, human marionette; Max Erard's company in "The Silver Wedding," and pictures.

CARMARTHEN.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. E. Orton.—This week: The Miller Sutcliffes, in Highland sports and pastimes, introducing the "Bass Drum King," and pictures.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.—On Monday Miss Inez Howard's company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell) presented "The Monk and the Woman," and Friday Mr. Frank Fenton in "His House in Order," supported by Mr. James E. Persse's No. 1 Co., including Miss Gwendolyn Carlisle.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Masterman.—This week (once nightly): Miss Ida Millais presents "A Dark Secret." The company includes: Mr. George Langdon, Mr. Cuthbert H. Taylor, Mr. Alfred Wilson, Mr. Henry Herne, Mr. J. H. Byron, Mr. Ted Mooney, Mr. H. Wallace Curnock, Mr. Harry Watson, Mr. John Weston, Mr. A. H. Howson, Mr. George May, Mr. Fred Montrose, Miss Amy Ellam, Miss Maggie Stewart, Miss Constance Lauri, Miss Ida Millais.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly): Saltley and His Nibs, comedy and wire experts; Mrs. Royston Dene and Co., including F. Arnold Mussett, in "The Sporting Widow"; pictures. Picture matinées. Monday and Saturday, at 3.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors. Messrs. C. and L. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company, in "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Hearne, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. Harry B. Clark, Mr. Arthur Medwin, Mr. Jack Govan, Mr. Henry Brooke, Mr. Fred Pitt, Mr. Will Hindson, Miss Dorothy Moulton, Miss Dorise Denise, Miss Emmeline Orford, Miss Dorothy Waine, Miss Maude Lancaster, Miss Helen Faulkner, Miss Maude Vyse, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Hilda Shepherd, Miss Madge Escolme, and Miss Hilda Guiver. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alan Dunbar.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Peterman and G. Ricketts Co., in "Flyaway's Derby," including James Learmouth; Francis and Alfred, juggler and comedy assistant; Tom Stuart, in burlesque impressions; Edie King, comedian and dancer; Daisy Taylor, comedienne and dancer; Campbell and Barber, comedy cycling characters; Mlle. Eldee, girl in the golden frame; pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): The Eight American Rag-Timers; the Claxtons; Rosie Hayes, character comedienne; Three Flying Winskills; Frank Melvin; Gladys Haywood, comedienne; Spissell Bros. and Co., in "A Quiet Little Supper"; pictures.

CHELMSFORD.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Chelmsford Empire and Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Clifford Reid.—This week: Lola Vreker and Co., presenting a tabloid musical comedy, "A Cider to Decide Her"; Bert Beecham, assisted by Maud Florence, in different types of artistes; Gladys Whitton, comedienne; Sparks and Vesta, comedians and shadow dancers; Bert Symes, the ploughboy baritone; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Picture pantomime, "Babes in the Wood"; Three Sables and Seal, entertainers, and Nell Wynne, the Shakespearean domestic.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Hippodrome (Chesterfield), Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. B. Taylor; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Sargisson.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

CORPORATION. — Proprietors, Corporation Theatre, Ltd.—This week: The Romanys, in "The Trombone of Jericho"; the Three Singing Colliers, in song scena "Home of the Pit"; Tom Pearson, comedian, siffleur, and bird mimic; the Four Netherlands, presenting "The Shocking Tale of the Stocking"; and pictures.

CRESSWELL PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Rogers.—This week (once nightly): Kitty Stewart, drawing-room entertainer, mimic, etc., and pictures.

COLCHESTER.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. C. Turner Hallett; Musical-Director, Mr. Karl Heber.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Inconstant George." The company includes: Mr. N. Carter Slaughter, Mr. William Matthews, Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. Alfred Rivers, Mr. Ellis Dee, Mr. Jack Ridley, Miss Hilda Glynn, Miss Mabel Ormonde, Miss Marian March, Miss Christine Dover, Miss Maude Gordon, Miss Hilda Gay, Miss Edith Pither. Touring-Manager, Mr. Alfred Rivers.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Co. presents: Monday, "Faust"; Tuesday, "Il Trovatore"; Wednesday matinée, "Faust"; Wednesday evening, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "I Pagliacci"; Thursday, "Maritana"; Friday, "Rigoletto"; Saturday (matinée) "Maritana." Saturday evening, "Carmen." The company includes: Signora Goretta, Signora Barone, Signora Milli, Signora Boffini, Signor d'Ottavi, Signor Vail, Signor Antonini, Signor Bartera, Signor Quintini, Signor Fragari. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Vasey and Co.; Manager, Mr. Tom Fyll.—This week the holiday attraction has been provided by Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company with "The Face at the Window," played by the following: Mr. Roy Fortescue, Mr. Gilbert Hall, Mr. James Weston, Mr. Frank Holyoake, Mr. Vivian A. Garton, Mr. Frederick Monckton, Mr. Arthur Chivers, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. Arthur Hellier, Mr. William Yates, Mr. George Lockwood, Mr. Robert Hamilton, Mr. H. Harland, Miss Maudie Grayson, Miss Lalla Shelton, and Miss Constance Glegabyn.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Dick Adams and Ernest Archer; Musical-Director, Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Sunshine Girl." The cast includes: Mr. Jack Morrison, Mr. Harry Bentham, Mr. Percy Cahill, Mr. Richard Saker, Mr. Chas. McCann, Mr. John Rorkl, Mr. Frank Foy, Mr. Ian Mavis, Mr. Fred C. Odames, Mr. Cyril Mayne, Mr. J. Broadbent, Mr. Clifford Warren, Mr. Lionel Greene, Mr. Jack Morris, Mr. Theodore Leonard, Miss Winnie Volt, Miss Mary Leyland, Miss Mabel George, Miss Cora Engleton, Miss Queenie Hare, Miss Mabel Leyland, Miss Lily Bell, Miss Netta Tomlinson, Miss Marion Meyner, Miss Vera Terry, Miss Dorothy Cooper, Miss Jennie Richards, and Miss Mysie Devine. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Gulliver; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay; Musical-Director, Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): Percy Honri and company in "Bohemia"; Herbert Rule; Ida Long; Arthur Pearl; Brothers Ashley; Jenny Johns; pictures; Bobby Dillon and Girls; and the Great Jupiters.

DERBY.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians; the Three Storks Herculean gymnasts; the Dalgarnos, in "Caught Napping"; Dainty Doris, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Clown Argo, animal mimic and entertainer; Ernie Clapham, at the piano, with song and story; and pictures.

PAVILION AND GARDENS.—This week: Mr. Sydney James's company with "The Excelsiors."

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Dorothy Veitch, Miss Freda Plowden, Miss Nell Rene, Miss Elsie Kedwards, Miss Kittie Liske, Miss Esme Esme, Miss Connie Miller, Miss Doris Somerset, the Marius Low Dancing Girls, the Brothers Aston, Baby Beaty, Sidney Dooley, Harry Rousby, Walter Lennard, the Stevanos, Edwin Ludlow, Tom Hulme, Dan Belmore, Fred Cedric, Sylvia Seville, Billy Sands, Dan Best, Dorothy Ashby, Jeanie Hardacre, Jessie Summers. Next week: "The Prisoner of Zenda."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. J. Jackett; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week: Alan Farman, character vocalist; the Two Veldons and friend, in dancing act; Renee Ray, in artistic tableaux; the Great Seven Perezoffs, in "An Animated Supper at Maxim's"; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king and tranka wonder; Dunco and Langdon, in comedy and dancing skit, "The Railway Porter"; Ando's Happy Little Japs, acrobats, jugglers, and equilibrists; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd. — This week: Aidee Mellor, vocalist; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL. — Lessees, Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Ramsden.—This week: F. Schofield, illustrated songs, and pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE. — Lessees, the Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Wood; Musical-Director, Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's Co., in "His Indian Wife." The company includes: Mr. William J. Rea, Mr. Gilson Brooke, Mr. Graham Arthurs, Mr. Gerald Byrne, Mr. Harry Harrold, Mr. Tod Squires, Master Victor Codd, Mr. Ardan Barne, Mr. H. C. Nerney, Mr. Lionel Wicks, Mr. Chas. Leonard, Miss Nelly Wilson, Miss Phillis Watson, Miss Laura Wright, Miss Nena Morley, Miss Mabel Liston. Next week: Mr. G. Brydon Phillips' pantomime, "Puss in Boots."

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bell; Musical-Director, Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Phil Ray, comedian; Vera Saunders, comedienne and dancer; Miss Cora Gill and Co., in Yorkshire sketch, "An Angel Unawares"; Sisters Royce and Sid; Four Powers, in instrumental act; the Two Lebruns; Edie, lady juggler; Edgar, in comedy; Lucy Lind, character comedienne; Quaint Q's, in humorous burlesque; and pictures.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A detailed notice of the pantomime, "Cinderella," will be found on another page.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The annual visit of the Quinlan Opera Company is always looked forward to here with considerable interest, and Dublin music lovers are taking advantage of the treat now provided. At "Aida" on Monday night the house was packed with a highly appreciative audience. The cast was an exceptionally strong one, including Miss Agnes Nicholls as Aida, Miss Edna Thornton (Ameris), and Mr. John Coates (as Rhadames). All were in splendid voice, and had to bow their acknowledgments several times before the curtain. Great interest was taken in the Irishman Cormac O'Shane, as the King, it being his first appearance with the company. His fine, sonorous voice lent much dignity to the part, and his performance was a decided success. On Tuesday Charpentier's opera, "Louise," was produced for the first time in Ireland, and was received with tremendous enthusiasm by a packed house. Miss Bola as Louise secured one of the greatest successes of the season so far; Mr. D'Oisly sang and acted with marked skill as Julien; Miss Edna Thornton was the mother and Mr. Samuel the father, both of whom acquitted themselves admirably. "Tales of Hoffmann," "Carmen," "Tristan and Isolde," "La Boheme," and "Faust," are also in the week's bill.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. H. J. Baynton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—"Mother Goose," now in her third week, is still playing to record houses. Miss Gladys Mavius is as fresh and boyish as ever, and promises to be as popular in Ireland as she is on the other side of the water. Ray and Lack are acknowledged to be the cleverest youngsters seen here for many a long day. Robb Wilton (Dame), and his able assistant Jack Judge (who is making a huge success as the Baron), cause roars of laughter whenever they are on the stage. The latter has some capital numbers, his "Tipperary" song being especially popular. Equal praise is due to the Bros. Shanks, whose "fiery steed" keeps the house rocking with laughter.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. George Marsh. — The Bell-Hattons present a charming musical act; Polly and Day create much amusement by their eccentric dancing; Alec Kennedy has some capital songs, which take on immensely; Miss Leslie Elliott is a comedienne and pianist much above the ordinary; Lees and Mona put an amount of humour into a clever acrobatic act; Mlle. Lucana, a beautiful trapeze artiste, accomplishes several difficult feats with ease and finish; Jimmy Grant is a comedian of Scotch extraction; and Rosie Renfrey sings sweetly.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Murphy.—The Norman Leonard Trio appear after many years in their native city, and enjoy a rousing reception nightly; the playing of the harp and violin by the two elder members is a musical treat, while Billy Leonard keeps the audience highly amused with his jokes and dances; Bella Sylvia has a contralto voice of wonderful depth, and richly deserves her encores; Ernie Ream is a capital pianist, a good story teller, and the possessor of a fine voice; the Lumars are clever and novel acrobats; Sisi and Fifi produce an original act; Percy Farrimond (the singing collier), Bert Rayburn (comedian), and Barr and Rutter (comedy acrobats), complete a capital bill.

ROTUNDA ROUND ROOM. — Manager and Proprietor, Mr. John T. Jameson.—P. J. Hoey's songs and stories, all racy of the soil, arouse uproarious mirth; Miss May Murphy is to be congratulated on the perfection to which she has brought her Irish Ladies' Orchestra; the pictures are up to the usual high standard.

WORLD'S FAIR WAXWORKS.—Proprietor, Mr. James.—The Mays present a unique act; Gladys and Ray deserve great credit for their singing; Bob Howe is a vocalist of no mean order; and the pictures are capital.

BODÉGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee and Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Everitt Loseby.—This week (once nightly): The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company presents: Monday, "The Yeomen of the Guard"; Tuesday, "The Pirates of Penzance," followed by "Trial by Jury"; Wednesday, matinée and evening, "The Mikado"; Thursday, matinée and evening, "The Gondoliers"; Friday, "The Yeomen of the Guard"; Saturday matinée, "Iolanthe," the Saturday evening, "The Mikado." The company includes: Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Fred Drawater, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Hugh Blackmore, Mr. George Sinclair, Mr. Fred Pattrick, Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Ethel George, Miss Louie Rene, Miss Minnie Howell, and Miss Hilda Cross. Touring-Manager, Mr. H. E. Bellamy; Musical-Director, Mr. François Cellier. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: The annual pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty," produced by Mr. Tom B. Davis.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Travis Green presents the Red Indian romantic play, "Queen of the Redskins," by Emma Litchfield. The company includes: Mr. Walter Wilson, Mr. Casper Middleton, Mr. Theodore Kelly, Mr. Fred W. Leonard, Mr. Allan Carruthers, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Geo. Davis, Mr. Geo. Melford, Miss May Laurence, Miss Phœbe Brady, Miss

"Taking your pipe and a book to your bath? Are you mad, old chap?"

"No fear! But you see I'm dead tired, and I'm going to take a bath with some mustard in it. And *that*, old man, is too great a delight to cut short. I always lie in the tub until the water cools off. Hence the pipe and book."

"Luxurious? Yes. Enervating? Not a *bit* of it! The action of the mustard on the entire system is simply marvellous. I don't know *why* it is—but I *do* know that after a tiring day, whether at business or sport, the only tonic I need is a bath with mustard in it."

"Trouble to prepare? Not a bit! Any Colman's Mustard will do, although Colman's sell these handy cartons—each one containing enough for a topping bath. Simply chuck the contents into your tub when you run the water, stir it round a bit and there you are."

Many people "don't know *why* it is"; but doctors and scientists *do* know. Upon the skin, nerves, and vital organs of the body, the action of mustard when combined with water is an extraordinary one. Every blood-vessel, every nerve, gets the benefit of the peculiar chemical action set up.

But just you try a *mustard*-bath for the pleasure the softening of the water will give you—for the benefit it brings your skin! Never mind about the *health* side—that will *soon* prove itself to you.

Have you Colman's Mustard in the house?

'Let Muster Mistard prepare your bath.'

Agnes Webster, Miss Flora Leslie, and Miss Laura Walker. Touring-Manager, Mr. Walter Wilson. Matinées, Wednesday and Thursday, at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns presents the pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," written, arranged, and produced by Mr. Henry Curwen. The company includes: Miss Olive Plant, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, Miss Mona Vivian, Miss Winnie Barr, Miss Muriel Santon, Miss Mabel Fenwicke, Mr. Bobbie Walker, Mr. Edwin Garth, Mr. Philip Renouz, Beatty Bros., Mr. Reuben Kitchen, Mr. Victor Tyler, Mr. Robert Daly, the Four Fedoras, Mr. F. W. Foster, Mr. Valmont MacKay, and Mr. Jim Bond. Touring-Manager, Mr. Louis Burns; Musical-Director, Mr. Alan D'Albert. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessees, B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin; Musical-Directress, Mrs. Currie.—This week (twice nightly): Maud and Harry Montrose, in Scotch comedy sketch; Little Jim Hunter, singer of sensible songs; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; Manager, Mr. J. Pennycook; Musical-Director, Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): Tony Ward, a master of many instruments, in "Musical Gems"; Sisters Mac, harmonising duettists and dancers; Jolly Jumbo, the blind comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

KINNAIRD HALL.—This week (once nightly): Dr. Walford Bodie, introducing electric, hypnotic, and magnetic wonders, assisted by La Belle Electra; Wee Mona Burns, comedienne; Stave, "the musical cannibal," in musical speciality act; Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Ernst, the latest violin prodigy; Albert E. Bodie, in his illusionary wonders; Evelyn De-Lara, high-class soprano; and Dr. Bodie's ventriloquial sketch, "The Laird's Highland Party." Touring-Manager, Mr. Wm. Skene Henry; Musical-Conductress, Mlle. D. Lenton. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. Blythe. — This week (twice nightly): Bert Russell, coon singer and dancer; and pictures. Matinées, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Binnall; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): The Montroses, the musical experts; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 3.

WEST END CINEMA. — Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Alex. Mitchell; Musical-Directress, Miss S. Alexander.—This week (twice nightly): Geo. Lackie, Scotch comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

THE CITY PICTUREDROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. George Griffan; Musical-Director, Mr. Robert Cameron.—This week (twice nightly): Gagg and Gaggin, Irish comedians and dancers; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilson G. Dibble.—This week (once nightly), matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday; Second and last week of Murray King and Clark's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Edgar Allan Brown.—Floral Hall: Sunday and Monday evenings and Tuesday afternoon, farewell concerts by the Devonshire Park Orchestra. Conductor, Mr. Norfolk Megone. Special artistes: Sunday evening, Miss Gertrude Lonsdale, contralto; Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Cenis O'Neil, in Irish songs at the piano; Monday afternoon, roller skating, with orchestra; Tuesday evening, grand illuminated skating gala (carnival masque); Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday afternoon, the Imperial Russian ballet, in "Scheherazade" and "Sylphide," and miscellaneous programme. Pavilion: Twice daily, cinematograph.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. H. Raymond; Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Barry Keay and company of comical comedians, in "The Bank Clerks"; Nellie Sprey, comedienne; Hippodrome Bioscope; Oscar King, the Georgian illusionist, assisted by his own company; Miss Marie Goodwin, in comedy songs, stories, and dancing; Marie Pascal, in her wonderful feats on the six-feet high pedestal; Dan Filmer, comedian and dancer; and Le Marsumas, in "The Navvy's Rest."

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes; Musical-Director, Mr. E. H. Peilgan.—Concerts Sunday afternoon and evening by Mr. Bransby Williams, Mr. Harry Kemp, Miss Dora Eshelby, Mr. Will Blanche, Miss Melaine Castell, and Miss May Clapham. This week (once nightly, matinées Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Jane." The company includes: Mr. E. H. Garden, Mr. Percy Marshall, Mr. Charles Usher, Master Edward Dyer, Mr. Sebastian Smith, Miss Jenny Lynn, Miss Ruby Halliar, Miss Irene Wells, and Miss Jeanne Holmes. Mr. Charles Usher is the company's stage-manager.

EAST GRINSTEAD.

WHITEHALL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Christopher; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Maplesden.—During the latter part of last week Mr. C. Vernon Proctor's company commenced a tour with "What Happened to Jones." The company included Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. Wm. Clareton-Crowe, Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. J. Lerwill, Miss Amy Rudd, Miss Harrieta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jensen, and Miss Connie Meadows.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Darlison; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is drawing crowded holiday audiences with "Princess Caprice."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The Royal pantomime, "Sinbad," goes merrily on its way, and the clever company by their efforts to amuse are contributing largely to the mirth of pleasure seekers.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. L. Howat; Musical-Director, Mr. Douglas Wilcox.—The pantomime, "Dick Whittington," has made an undoubted hit, and full houses are the rule at every performance.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Musical-Director, Mr. James Howarth.—For the New Year holiday week the management has provided a continuous performance of two hours at each house in the shape of a pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," presented by Mr. Harry Burns. The old story has been adapted and arranged by Mr. Henry Curwen, who has seized upon every salient point of the tale. The cast contains several excellent actors, who do full justice to their parts. A prominent player is Mr. Geo. Jackley, a comedian, who not only possesses great humorous powers, which are heartily recognised by the enthusiastic applause and laughter of the audiences, but who dances and sings well. Miss Helen Charles is a comely Dick. Miss Rosie Pink imparts warmth and colour to her impersonation of Alice Fitzwarren, Mr. Michael Madden contributes to the fun as Dame Mary Ann, and amongst other members of the company who deserve mention are Mr. Joe Panly as the Cat, Miss Lilian Barnes as Captain Dreadnought, and Miss N. Hindmarsh as Princess of Morocco. Speciality dances by the Twelve Rainbows, and entertaining turns by Messrs. Jackley and Le Sine and Messrs. Acre and Morris assist in brightening the piece.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LA-ROLA is delightfully soothing and refreshing after motoring, golfing, cycling, dancing, &c. The daily use of "La-rola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Irritation, and Chaps, and preserves the delicacy of the skin in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s. and 2s. 6d. each of all chemists and stores. M. Beetham and Son Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

MOSS'S CARNIVAL.—The twenty-eighth carnival, under the name of its esteemed founder, has, like all its predecessors, proved a strong attraction. The large building is constantly filled by crowds of holiday makers, and the reserved seats for the platform performance, as well as the many varied side shows, are largely taken advantage of. The programmes provide entertainment to suit every kind of taste, and one can enjoy many hours of amusement in a visit to this popular place of resort.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: The pantomime "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Bunty Gordon, Mr. Will Davidson, Miss Madge Beresford, the Brookland Girls, Mr. Jackson Brown, Mr. Fred Lincoln, Mr. Charles Calvert, Mr. Alf Maynall, Mr. Ben Verity, and Miss Gwen Zalska.

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: Sid Bedford and company, in "The Second Mrs. Chester"; Will Tyler, trick cyclist; Halcroe and Royal, comedians; the Albano Girls, vocalists; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. E. Atkinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. E. Cooper.—This week: Valvero's "Naval Bombardment"; Clifford and Clarke, comedians; Joan Harkins, vocalist; Johnnie Alexander and company, in the sketch, "Our Lodger"; and pictures.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE.—Proprietors, Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Glenville and Osmond present "For Wife and Kingdom." The company includes: Mr. Percy H. Wood, Mr. Reginald T. Fox, Mr. Charles H. Gallier, Mr. Cecil A. Melton, Mr. Fred Osmond, Mr. T. Varney, Mr. Tom Falconer, Mr. Henry Smythe, Mr. D. Dunlop, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. Harrold Goodyier, Miss Lilian Melvern, Miss Alice Buckland, Miss Louise Millward, Miss Elaine Vanbrugh, Miss Margaret Hobart. Next week: "The Cattle Thief."

KING'S THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents "Little Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. Tom H. Solly, Mr. Arthur Lucan, Mr. Syd Dean, Mr. Bert Beswick, Miss Violet Thorne, Miss Florence Eden, Miss Ena Compton, Miss Violet Kilner, Miss Belle H. Clements, Miss Edith Goodwin, Miss Dolly Andrews, Miss Rhoda Morrella, Miss Ada Waugh, Mr. W. H. Menri, Mr. William Dean, Miss Joan Kent, Miss Lily Sinclair, Miss Amy Hall, Miss Nancy Fowlis, Miss Nellie Burnes, Miss Jessie Weston, and Miss May Dallow. Touring-manager, Mr. Thomas Swinton. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY. — Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Simon Ord. — Large audiences have witnessed the specially prepared holiday programme at this popular theatre of kinemacolor, comprising such items as "Peeps into Nature," "Geysers of New Zealand," "Jack and the Beanstalk," and "Santa Claus." A word of praise is due to Mr. Frank H. Saker as lecturer, his clever puns and witty sayings being much enjoyed.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—"Mother Hubbard and Goody Two Shoes" is meeting with phenomenal success here. Dainty Daisy Dormer, as Goody Two Shoes is very popular, and Harry Conlin, as Mother Hubbard, keeps up the fun, and, along with Jay Laurier as Timothy Jacks, Charley Harvey the Squire, Gwennie Harcourt as Mary, Griffiths Bros. as Fits and Starts, and Geo. Conquest, jun., as Fido, the dog, provided abundant laughter. Miss Mabel Medrow, as Reggie, plays admirably, and her singing is exceptionally good; Rosie Chandler and Dollie Payne are a talented couple, who dance rag-time excellently.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Since the inaugural performance "Goody Two Shoes" has been running with the utmost smoothness. From the outset the artistes work in the greatest harmony. Mr. Dan Whitley is particularly prominent, and while he occupies the stage there is little else but laughter and applause. He is ably supported by a host of other capable artistes, notably Miss Kitty Dale, who is specially favoured for her splendid rendering of several songs, and, in conjunction with Miss Jennie Hartley, form a splendid pair as principal boy and girl. Mr. Cecil Rutland and Mr. Stanley Damerell are a fine pair of comedians, and very popular, and Billy Walters, the Scotch character, is amusing as the Postie.

METROPOLE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry C. Edwin.—A special attraction is provided here for the New Year holidays in "Married to the Wrong Man." In the part of Ruth, Miss Mary Pemberton acts with feeling, and in the dumb scenes her gestures are most expressive. Mr. Philip Darien is the soldier hero, and looks every inch the officer and gentleman; another ideal military man is seen in the Sergeant Manners of Mr. Walter Pemberton; Mr. Frank Fordham acquits himself well in the thankless rôle of Captain Deering; as Jaspar Skinner, Mr. Vincent Lorraine's work is highly effective; Mr. Charles Olive plays Dr. Archie Bird in light, humorous style; the other comedy parts, Clinker and Dolly Fritter, being also well filled by Mr. Charles V. Brooke and Miss Genna Lyndon; the Rose O'Connor of Miss Violet Macaree is a charming impersonation; Miss Marie Lynd is good as Mother Snaggs; the Nurses are ably represented by Misses Ruby Sutherland and Beamish; good work being also done by Mr. Leonard Lorraine as Dr. Brandon, and Mr. Reginald Maurice as Swanker.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—"Arms and the Girl," a comedy operetta, in two scenes, is a most delightful item. Cyril Kempster, as Sergeant-Major John Water, excels both vocally and histrionically. Miss Elsie le Hay makes a hit as Elsie Manners, Water's foster-sister. Alice Manners, as Margaret M'Curdle, gives a fine bit of low comedy acting. The rest of the cast, which includes Messrs. Horace Percival, Fred Conyers, and H. Franklin, deserve every praise for their untiring efforts. Little Edna Payne, the latest juvenile star, has abundance of talent, and Harry Grey, the Australian sundowner, makes good in his new business. The remainder of the programme includes such talent as the Spanish Goldinis, carpet spinners, jugglers, and dancers; the Brothers Curran, in their comedy boxing act; Thora, in a remarkable ventriloquial act; the Durant Brothers, in a laugh-maker, "Everything"; and Miss Olive Armidale, a fascinating comedienne.

PAVILION, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Musical-Director, Mr. R. F. Steele.—A good holiday bill here is headed by Mike S. Whallen, whose songs and stories are always popular, and again he scores with his extempore verses on members of the audience. Helena Millais and Co. appear in a cowboy episode, "Silver Creek," which is extremely dramatic and exciting; Gus Fowler, the watch king, again astonishes the onlookers with the innumerable watches he produces from all the most unlikely places, till the stage is littered with them. Richard Finberg's character studies are all extremely good, and his turn is a popular one. Bob and Jennie Leonard are a clever comedy duo; Lennie Hill is a smart young comedienne; Williams and Wells take well as wooden-shoe dancers; and Jim Max is a comedian and dancer of ability. Frances McNulty introduces a singing, dancing, and quick-change turn, and she has some catchy songs. Mavor and Barton give a smart trick cycling turn.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Lalla Selbini, successor to Lafayette, tops the bill here for the New Year week, and appears in "The Lion's Bride," with all the sensational and dramatic details connected with Lafayette's name. In a second turn composed of burlesque, travesties, and illusions, the audiences are completely mystified. The famous Jackson Family of trick cyclists show their command over the cycle in every conceivable position; Bart and Bart, in an acrobatic absurdity. "The Baggage Wreckers," are in a class by themselves for agility; Four Royal Scots are dainty ladies who sing and dance themselves into the good graces of their audience; as rattle-shoe dancers, the Four Newburys made an exceptionally good impression; Archie Inglis, artist entertainer, in full view of the audience, drew and exhibited by lantern, character sketches of notabilities, and Rich Hayes well merited the title appearing in the bill as the Conglomerated Essence of Humour and Skill.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—John Tiller's pantomime, "Ali Baba," begins its second week with a remodelled cast, and with several extra numbers. That quaint laughter-maker, Wee Georgie Wood, keeps the house in a roar with his amusing antics as Cassim, the hen-pecked husband of Cogia, who now finds an able representative in Jack Pleasants. Nelly Rodney is a piquant Ganem, having all the qualities that go to make a successful principal boy. Jessie Gerard possesses a fine voice, which she uses to much advantage in the part of Morgiana. Freddy French fills the rôle of Ali Baba with all the quaintness required, while as Captain of the Forty Thieves Edith Jefferies is dashing and handsome. Among the others who go to make up the success of the pantomime, E. J. Barker is worthy of special notice, his capers as Ali Baba's moke being the cause of much mirth. Tiller pantomimes have ever been famous for their dancing, and "Ali Baba" is no exception, the troupe in this case being the Twelve Merry Mascots, who contribute dancing of delightful daintiness.

ALHAMBRA, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Butt; Manager, Mr. Edward Foster; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard Croft.—Fred Karno's Co., in "Perkins in Paris," is responsible for many hearty laughs, and Albert Bruno and the other members of the company keep the fun going briskly. In striking contrast to this item is the poetical fantasy, "A Maker of Dreams," presented by the Scottish Repertory Theatre Co. This beautiful litle play was excellently acted by Messrs. Eliot Makehan and Franklyn Dyall, and Miss Muriel Reddall. Elsie Southgate, the famous violinist, gave a number of classic items, accompanied by her sister Dorothy on the Mustel organ, and brought down the house with "Annie Laurie." The Tan Kwai Family of Chinese entertainers contribute many clever and daring feats. Big Bill Lind and Buck Simpson contribute several well-sung songs, with piano accompaniments. Sophie Forrest is a clever young comedienne, and Arthur Croxon takes well in his imitations.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Harry McKelvie's funny pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," has started on what looks like a successful second week at the Lyceum, Govan. The houses were filled on Monday with enthusiastic audiences. Miss Edie Haley, as Tom Tucker, and Miss Maggie Fraser, as Rosie, are old Glasgow favourites, who are very successful. Mr. Peter Bermingham is responsible for most of the fun of the evening. As Sammie, he has full scope for showing what a quaint comedian he is. Miss Retta Halkett takes the part of Bella Houston, and makes herself a favourite.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. John M'Millan; Musical-Director, Mr. Lex Holmes.—Fred Karno's latest absurdities, "The Village Sports," and "The Smoking Concert," take pride of place here this week, and the holiday season promises to be one of the best. Other turns are Two Styles, eccentric comedians; Arthur Albert, light comedian; Marie Thorne, mimic, vocalist, and dancer; Hope and Russell, comedy duo; Hugh Ogilvie, character comedian; and a specially good turn by Vincent Day and Lena Doreen, original vocalists and dancers.

STAR, PARTICK.—Proprietors, Star Animated Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—A welcome return is made by Lambeth and Robertson, who received an ovation. In the presentation of their appropriate piece, "Yae Hogmanay Nicht," the humour of the setting appealed to the audience, their sidelights on the festive season creating great merriment. Bentley and Bentley provide good entertainment as comedians and dancers. Les Valdons, in a smart pot-pourri act, were well received; Oswald Remand, the Prince of Mystery, kept the audience in a state of bewilderment; and pictures complete.

PRINGLE'S, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Paulton; Musical-Director, Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): Lily Roselle and company in the dramatic sketch "The Success of Failure"; Ray and Richards, singers and dancers; and pictures.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Hengler; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Milne; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Wood.—The circus season at Hengler's is still attracting large audiences. The magnificent water spectacle which concludes a little incident in "Life in the Balkans," is very effective and impressive. Doodles, the old favourite, carries himself well all through the performance, and is ably helped by Pimple. All the other artistes, too, are in splendid form.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre presents "East Lynne." The company includes: Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, Mr. Joe Rowland, Mr. Fred Dobell, Mr. F. T. Carroll, Mr. Paul Beresford, Mr. Geo. Pammer, Mr. Rowe Jocelyn, Mr. C. S. Gordon, Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre, Little Maisie Mignon, Miss Nellie Nadine, Miss Addie Adair, Miss Elsie Attwood, Miss Viva Vrai, Miss Ida Deller, and Miss Bessie Rignold. Touring-Manager, Mr. C. Stanley Gordon. Next week: "Jack and the Beanstalk."

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Three Royal Dreadnoughts, rifle shots; Harry Dowsett, comedian; H. Raymond and Ivy, in coon songs and dances; and pictures.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (twice nightly): Chung Ling Soo, Chinese magician; Victor Brothers, equilibrists; Mira Jensen, contralto; Bombardier Morris, singing Artilleryman; Yazo, violinist; and Rall and Tando.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

HIPPODROME.—Director and Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—This week: Marie Santoi and company; Horace Monto; Burt Ward; Eadie and Madge; Geo. Maston; Geo. C. Doughty and Molly Laney, in "A Woman's Way."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Walter Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Walford.—This week: The Almo Trio; Tom Hammond; Two Vinces; Bert Russell; Coates and Parrish.

GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—This week: Dezer Kordi ('cellist) and company; Hal Crouese; Allen and Austin; and pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—A packed house on Monday night greeted the production of Mr. Fred J. Little's pantomime, "Aladdin," at the King's. The dresses are costly and pretty, and several scenes, notably the Market Place, the Enchanted Cave, the Charmed Palace, and Aladdin's Palatial Pagoda, are beautiful examples of the scenic artist's craft. The pantomime is written and produced by Mr. Frank Ayrton. Miss Lillie Langtry is the Aladdin, and her reputation for vivacity and charm is well sustained. She won much applause for a clever rendering of "Alexander's rag-time band." Another item well exploited by Miss Langtry is "Everybody's doing it," whilst "Let's make a night of it" also gives Aladdin an opportunity to shine. Miss Lillian de Penny made a charming Princess, and pleased very much with her several numbers, which included "My home in Dixie," and a pretty duet, in which she was assisted by Mr. Charles B. Hargreaves, who cleverly undertakes the rôle of the Emperor, and scores with his songs. As the Grand Vizier Staffo does well. Any amount of innocent rollicking fun is provided by Mr. Alf. Brookes as Widow Twankey, Mr. C. D. Reekie as Abanazar, Messrs. Charlie and Will Bowskie as the two comic policemen, and Mr. Leslie Digby as Wishee Washee; while Miss M. Seymour, Miss Connie Moore, Miss Lola Estelle, and Miss Edie Anderson all add to the success of the entertainment. Additional enjoyment is derived from the capital speciality turns of the Eight Pickets, a clever troupe of dancers; Nash and Anderson, comedy duettists and dancers; Staffs, comedy juggler; and Hargreaves and Denny, operatic vocalists. The music throughout is tastefully rendered by the augmented orchestra, under the baton of Mr. G. D. Fox.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Carlton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. R. Bingley.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here, presenting "Find the Woman." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Victor, Mr. Oliver Crombie, Mr. Olaf Hytten, Mr. Ernest Cassel, Mr. Arthur Elwyn, Mr. Walter Goodwin, Mr. Lewis Clarke, Mr. James Carr, Mr. Fred Charles, Mr. [illegible] Seymour, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Marion Lockey, Miss Sybil Clayton, and Miss Agnes Verity.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Musical-Director, Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: Ike and Will Scott, comedians; Elsie Arnold and Lil Baxter, in gipsy vocal scena; Reg Wentworth, comedy artiste; the Omega Trio, revolving equilibrists; Harley Bros., American entertainers; the Tit-Bits, in a vaudeville act; Hal Smithers, rag-time comedian.

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Deighton.—This week: Wilson and Page, in comedy effusion; Beattie Bloom, comedienne; Wisper, comedy juggler, and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin James.—This week, once nightly: Mr. George Edwardes' production, "The Girl in the Train." Touring-Manager, Mr. Bay Russell. The company includes: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens, Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue, Miss Ethel Oliver. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2. Next week: "The Goose That Laid the Golden Eggs."

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hinton; Musical-Director, Mr. A. F. Hall.—This week (twice nightly): Wm. Pardoe's company in "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss May Birkett, Miss Jean Herries, Miss A. Herries, Miss Erica Lerine, Miss Amy Harrison, Miss Dunbar, Miss Cissy Stuart, Miss May Florence, Miss Maisie Munroe, Miss Jessy Morton, Miss Madge Lloyd, Miss Daisy Delmar, Miss Rosa Hazlewood, Miss Nelly Darnell, Miss Florence Brittle, Miss Mona Desmond, Miss F. Hewitt, Miss Laura Hazlewood, Mr. Tom Griffit (late Carl Rosa Opera Co.), Miss Nellie Rose, Miss Lottie Holland, Miss Mayme Savoy, Miss Kearns, Mr. Karl Edwards, Messrs. Barnard and Ru Allen; Sisters D'Estrail, Messrs. Roylatt and Mack, and Messrs. Dunbar and Vasey. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Musical-Director, Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Lodi Family, in "Fun on the Alps"; Julian Mack, dame comedian, assisted by Miss Nellie Booth; Felix and Fisher, comedy gymnasts; Webb and Branston, in military song-scena; Aimee Roberts, dialect impressionist; Syd Moorhouse; Stoddard and Hynes, in comedy musical act.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's pantomime, "Cinderella." Company includes: Miss Lena Stanton, Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen, Miss Marjory Fraser, Miss Lena Joseph, Miss Ella Doran, Miss Mabel Aubrey, Sisters Delhi, Miss Mabel Elphinstone, Mr. Fred Ellis, Mr. Cameron, Mr. T. Owen Hunter, Mr. Will Sheppard, Mr. Frank Sheppard, Little Keeno, the Leola Troupe (acrobatic dancers), Vic Verney, whistler. Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur Meredith.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—This week: Bunth and Rudd, eccentrics; Delio and Metz, burlesque artistes; the Northcotes, duettists; Tom Joy, comedian; the Eight College Girls, vocalists and dancers; Francini, Ollams, and Page, acrobats, &c.; Mr. Harry M. Vernon's company, in "Canada"; and pictures.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazelwood.—This week: Miss Lilian Unett, comedienne; and pictures.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week (matinee, Saturday, 2.30): "Merry Miss Mischief." The company includes: Messrs. Charles Childerstone, Reginald Relsie, Evelyn Vernon, Fred Trott, George Donovan, D. McArthur, Misses Marjorie Lawton, Margery Gray, Jean Cavendish, Grace Lester, Daisy James, Maud Diamond, and Hilda Moss. Manager, Mr. Robert Allistone; Musical-Director, Mr. Eugen Basel.

HEXHAM-ON-TYNE.

GEM PALACE.—Proprietors, The Northern Biograph Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Richard Waugh.—This week: The Milos, weight lifters; Harleno, paper manipulator and entertainer; Eden and Howard, vocalists; and pictures

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Robt. Ainsley; Musical-Director, Mr. Alex. Schmidt.—This week: Mr. Morton Powell presents "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." The company includes: Miss Patti Hastings, Miss Florence Hamilton, Miss Irene Carrington, Miss Lizzie Lennon, Mr. Frederick Freeman, Mr. W. H. Porter, Mr. J. A. Hybert, Mr. Richard Webb, Mr. Western Beecher, etc. Next week, the management have engaged Mr. A. Hinton's No. 1 company in "Allah's Orchard."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: The Eight Lancashire Lads, and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Continuing twice nightly this week is Fred Granville's pantomime of "The Babes in the Wood." The principal members of the cast are Mr. Harry Jones, Miss Marie Estelle, Mr. George Green, Mr. Matt Kilduff, Mr. Evan Davis, Rand and O'Ryan, Tiny and Mite, Miss Kitty Clifford, the Sisters Lyall, and Miss Maude Phillips.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: Miss Beth Tate, A. D. Robbins and company, trick cyclists; Briff, Braff, and Broff, comedy tumblers; Avis and Barre, comedy conjurers; Dexter, lightning sketch artiste; the Five Tritons, in a musical scena; John Child, operatic tenor; Will Lambert, comedian; and pictures.

HULL.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—As one predicted, the second week of "The King of the Wild West" has been even more successful than the first, so much so that a matinée has been arranged for Saturday to meet the crush who are nightly turned away, the "house full" legend being hoisted quite early in the evening. On Monday night nothing would suffice but that Young Buffalo should make a speech at the fall of the curtain, both he and Miss Caroline May Blayney, who so admirably fills the rôle of Wild Nell, have made good in Hull, and it will not surprise one to hear that Mr. Morton has secured them for another year. The play is just the thing for a holiday audience. The cowboys' band, the rough riders, the native songs and dances all contribute to give a novel show, which is quite to the taste of patrons of this popular playhouse.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. S. Barnett; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert E. Leader. — This week (twice nightly): Willard; Bella and Bijou, in comedy interludes; Haig and Novel, comedy acrobats; Chas. Cardow, comedian; W. T. Ellwanger and Co., in "Who Did It?"; Donaldson Bros., in comedy act; Billy French, comedian and dancer; Carmen Turia, singer; the Australian McLeans, dancers; pictures.

TIVOLI.—Lessees, Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. T. Aldrich, the man of many parts; Gordon and Elgin, in rag-time dances; Marie Schulz, in "The Willow Pattern Plate"; Bennie Barrow, comedian; Les Carmody Trio, jugglers; Miss Frances Hanlon, comedienne; Will Knight, violinist; Billy Rhodes, comedian; and the Rangers, in trick and comedy cycle act.

EMPIRE.—This week: Billy Ross and Co., in comedy act; Nellie Sheldon, comedienne; Benaiah, Ethiopian hercules; Chas. Gould, patter comedian; Archie O'Neill, vocalist; pictures.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Four Ruby Sisters, acrobats and dancers; Harry Lyle, vocalist; Pat, Doris, and Avice, vocal and instrumental act; pictures.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. F. and R. Kelso.—This week: Moore and Lindsay, in comedy act; Victor Newman, character actor; Baron Nickolay and Son, Russian dwarfs; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—Proprietors, The Ipswich Lyceum Co., Ltd.; Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery; Resident-Manager, Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Mr. G. Brydon Phillips' pantomime company in "Little Red Riding Hood," including Miss Dess Desborough, Miss Myria Hamilton, Miss Dorothy Trowell, Miss May Phillips, Miss Hero de Rance, and Miss Lilian Rose. Mr. Charles Gardener, Mr. Frank Douglas, Mr. Fred Louin, Mr. Chas Conifrey, Messrs. Cribb

and Cribb, Miss Connie Somers, Mr. A. Lorne, Miss Dorothy James, and the Four Whitworths in their marvellous cycling performance. Conductor, Mr. Walter James. Business-Manager for Mr. G. Brydon Phillips, Mr. James Preston. Next week: Mr. Arthur Roberts and company.

HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Gordon Bostock.—This week: The Royal Banzai Family of Japanese jugglers and gymnasts; the Wilton-Heriot Trio in an amusing boy scout sketch, entitled "Artful Alfred"; the original Balfours, in a novelty sketch, "A Milk Girl's Morning Drive with Hindrances"; the Sisters Geretti, double trapeze act; the Columbia Trio, in an operatic and humorous absurdity"; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Sovillo, in a merry sketch, "Jack's Jacket"; George Leonard, comedy artist; and the Bioscope.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Alexander and Skardon's company in "For Honour and Revenge." The cast includes: Mr. Herbert Skardon, Mr. C. H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Newton Pearce, Mr. E. Edward Brooke, Mr. John Byrne, Mr. Charles Keely, Mr. Sydney Forbes, Mr. J. Kelsham, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Nancy Mitchell, and Miss Sidney Crowe.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week: Miss Carlotta Levey; Gigardo, the juggler; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Lillie Williams and Co.; Manager, Thomas Rodger.—Miss Isa Bowman's co., with "The Girl on the Picture," is here this week. The company includes: Messrs. Frank Barclay, Hylton Warde, Gregory Scott, Besley Beltram, Tom Squire, Arnold Dean, Henry Hyne, Hubert Godfrey, Jack Callan, and Claude Farrow; Miss Isa Bowman, Miss Clarisse Heney, Miss Kitty Kirwan, Miss Peggy Phyl, Miss Lilian Grey, Miss Dolly Weaver; &c. Mr. Herbert Ivery is the Musical-Director.

PALACE.—Manager, J. Cummings.—This week: Miss Irene Rose, comedienne; Goodwin and Fields, comedy artistes; Dan Derby, ventriloquist; Ted Mercel, dancer; Sid Doody and Edie Wright, in comedy act; Margaret Doris' troupe of dogs.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Musical-Conductor, Mr. Jasper J. Wright.—For three nights this week, Chung Ling Soo is appearing in his marvellous illusion entertainment. He is supported by a strong variety company, including Victor Bros., equilibrists; Bombardier Morris, vocalist; Mira Jenson, vocalist; Rall and Tando, comedy duo; Yazo, violinist.

KINGSTON.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; General-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Royce.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Randall, comedian; Emil Solbrig, in "A Day Out"; Gabrielle Hope, in musical act; J. H. Wakefield, coon impersonator and dancer; Carter's Ten Dixie Girls; Mabel Thorne, singer; La Belle Alva, in dancing scena; Angela's living statuary; and Kitts and Windrum, in "Our Baby."

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. C. T. Birch; Manager, Mr. H. Trenby Birch.—This week: The F. R. Benson Shakespearean Co., in repertoire. On Monday "The Taming of the Shrew" was given, the cast including: Miss Gladys Vandergee as Katharina, Mr. Henry Herbert as Petruchio, Miss Evelyn Vandergee as Bianca, Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Lucentio, Mr. John Cairns as Grenico, Mr. Basil Rathbone as Hortensio, Mr. Charles Warburton as Baptista, and Mr. Pardoe Woodman as Vincentio. Tuesday and Friday "If I Were King" was played; on Wednesday, "The Merry Wives of Windsor"; Thursday, "Twelfth Night"; and Saturday, "Hamlet" and "The Merchant of Venice."

COLONNADE THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—This week: Alice Gill, Tyrolean vocalist; and Hill and Daring, acrobats. Pictures complete.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; Manager and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush; Musical-Director, Mr. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown present "The Old Folks at Home." The company includes: Mr. Richard Ferris, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Basil B. Brabazon, Mr. Clifford Bown, Mr. Bert Detch, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Arthur Entwistle, Mr. William Speke, Mr. S. B. Sinclair, Mr. Arthur C. Crosby, Mr. Richard Loft, Mr. Fred Worth, Mr. Philip Nevin, Miss Clara Santley, Miss Gertie Moody, Miss Edith Giddings, Miss Glory Shannon, Miss Mary Reynolds, and Miss Clare O'Sullivan. Matinées, Monday and Wednesday at 2.30. Next week: "A Lad's Love."

EMPIRE. — Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—"The Real Rag-Timers" are a big draw in some clever songs and dances; Bert Weston's songs are much appreciated, as also are Arthur Slater's whistling solos; an amusing Scottish dialect sketch is provided by MacDonald and Young's Co. in "The Lodgers"; the Four Rays are favourites in songs and dances; a pleasing gymnastic act is provided by Annettee and Lillian, and the eccentricities of Griff are greatly enjoyed. Mme. Golda, Australian soprano, and Rose Cambrey, comedienne, also give clever turns.

THE HIPPODROME. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown. — Richard Nightingale and Walter Bishop's pantomime, "Aladdin," is drawing good houses. Edna Latone makes a smart Aladdin, and Gynne Morgan is well received as the Princess; Walter Bishop instils much humour in the character of Abanazar; and George Brooks as the Widow is a favourite; the Four Broadway Boys, Gray and White, and the Sisters Pearl, introduce clever speciality acts.

VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Appearing here are Alberta, Flahey, Josephine Langley, Aleck Lauder, Four Mexicans, Kenneth and Kane, and Phil Dooley.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bibby; Musical-Director, Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): Salt Bush Bill, stockwhip expert; Harley Duo, harmonising vocalists; Little Doris, wonderful juggling violinist; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Proprietors, the Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; General-Manager, Mr. George Salt; Acting-Manager, Mr. George E. Gough; Musical-Director, Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Batchelors, in scena, "Pilgrims' Harmony in Character"; La Belle Tosca, silver wire and globe specialities; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. J. W. Andrews.—The pantomime of "Jack Horner" is running to excellent business and the accompaniment of hearty laughter.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. J. W. Andrews; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. F. Warwick; Musical-Director, Mr. J. H. Vann.—A capital attraction is provided here this week by Mr. James Bell's company, presenting in good style the historical drama, "A Fatal Crown," the principal part of Lady Jane Grey being interpreted by Miss Annie Bell.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. B. Marris; Musical-Director, Mr. John W. Lowe.—Notwithstanding their alarming experiences on Sunday last in the railway collision, when leaving Wolverhampton for Leicester, Mr. Fred. Ginnett's company duly made its appearance on Monday evening and met with enthusiastic applause. Miss Bonita, the champion rifle shot, Miss Cleopatra, the snake charmer, and Mr. Billy Lee, the stockwhip expert, coming in for special recognition. "Wild Australia" is representative of tit-bits from the great Colonial show, showing incidents, adventures, and exciting sport and play. James A. and Herbert B. Jewel are presenting their latest and greatest spectacular protean production, "Change; or, the Haunted Castle," an interesting comedy drama in four lightning transformations, and also capably played by Mr. James A. Jewel, Miss Queenie Harvey, Miss Helen Elmer, Mr. Fred Marsh, Mr. Robert Barbour, and Mr. Herbert B. Jewel. Happy Tom Parker, comedian and dancer, goes as well as ever; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins are appearing again in their vocal comedy, "The Piano Tuner"; Carlos Menard is very good as a novelty violinist; Shine and McVoy give a smart comedy acrobatic act; and Vicky Delmar is another entertaining turn. The Bioscope pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Britcher.—Topping this week's bill are Wallace Aston and company, in the dramatic-comedy playlet, "Filby, the Faker," in which Mr. Wallace Aston scores a big success as Tim Filby, being supported in the other parts by Miss Kitty Trevail, Mr. Geo. Goodwin, and Mr. Sydney Bayless; M. Roelgin, who is assisted by Mlle. Ellaine, presents a really wonderful performance with performing parrots; Loates and Stockdale are popular entertainers; and other artistes who appear with success include Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer; Will and Nell, refined vocalists and clever ragtime dancers; Aimee and Rose, excellent musicians and dancers; and Bernard Silver, in mimicry, stories, and dances.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Jordon; Musical-Director, Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "King of the Gipsies." The company includes: Mr. Sydney Bland, Mr. S. Leigh Courtney, Mr. Arthur Rodney, Mr. Bertram Thomas, Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. J. Fisher, Mr. Geo. Inglis, Mr. E. A. Peake, Mr. C. Jarvis, Mr. Wm. Hughes, Mr. J. Rudd, Miss Nina Hardinge, Miss Ethel F. Greene, Miss Emma Litchfield, and Miss Josephine Richards. Next week: "Aladdin" (pantomime).

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week (twice nightly): Lady Mansell and her juveniles, in clever comedy scena, "A Concert Rehearsal"; Arthur Page, Lancashire comedian; Nancy Renshaw, laughing negress; Messrs. Dolan and Darty, acrobatic comedians; Ethel Thomas, Welsh nightingale; Gibbon Bell Trio, novel acrobats and dancers; Paul and Fred Willis, marvellous equilibrists; and pictures. Matinees, Monday and Wednesday at 2.30. Next week: "Cinderella" (pantomime).

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Graham-Yool; General-Manager, Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Musical-Director, Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Welda and Wynne, comedy and juggling team; Nicol Brothers, trick cyclists; Rolf E. Slater and vocalists, in songs and harmony; and pictures.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "Captain Drew on Leave." Wednesday evening, "The Mollusc" and "The Call of Duty." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Herbert Maule, Mr. William Jackson, Mr. George Delaforce, Miss Daisy Nunn, Miss Dorrie Roberts. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Miss Winifred Maude presents "The Woman from Scotland Yard." Next week: "The Butterfly on the Wheel."

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Musical-Director, Mr. Julien H. Wilson.—The pantomime of "Tommy Tucker" has proved a success from the opening, and crowded audiences are the rule. Four matinées were given during this week.

SHAKESPEARE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Gaffney; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Shea.—Much enjoyment is being derived from the pantomime of "Jack Horner," which possesses all the elements that go towards making a capital annual.

ROTUNDA.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Thompson.—The second week of Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime, "Cinderella," has seen good business. It is a bright little show.

REPERTORY.—General-Manager, Mr. Basil Dean; Business-Manager, Mr. T. J. Pigott; Musical-Director, Mr. Joseph Smith; Stage-Manager and producer, Mr. Arthur K. Philips.—"Fifinella," the fairy frolic, a notice of which appears in another column, is meeting with a deal of public patronage. It is an excellent production, and will enhance the reputation of this place of amusement.

KELLY'S.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Musical-Director, Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The second week of Moody-Manners opera has included "Il Trovatore," "Lohengrin," "Carmen" (Mlle. Zelie de Lussan), "Lily of Killarney," "Daughter of the Regiment," "Romeo and Juliet," "Faust" and "Maritana" (Miss Florence Morden). Lovers of music have come forward in large numbers.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hicks; Musical-Director, Mr. George M. Saker.—Here this week large audiences have appreciated the American Rag-time Octette, whose turn is particularly good; Sammy Shields convulsed his audience with funny songs and smart patter; Weston and Lynch present a most diverting trifle with the sketch "The Fainting Girl"; Langley and Inger please greatly in a musical speciality; as athletes the Bellclair Bros. prove especially clever; Will H. Fox provides a smart turn at the piano; Mr. and Mrs. Manning have a humorous duologue, "Our Wedding Anniversary"; and Henry Helme shows fine vocal powers. The daily matinées of "The Golden Land of Fairy Tales" continue to draw large audiences.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Musical-Director, Mons. R. Klasse.—"The Pride of Byzantia" has put in a second week.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Braham.—The attraction here this week is Tiller's "Sinbad the Sailor" pantomime, which has been received with great favour by large audiences. Miss Florrie Page shows plenty of dash and spirit in the part of the principal boy, and sings several songs in delightful manner; Miss Olitzka Madison proves a dainty principal girl, and found great favour with her songs, particularly "Hello! Susie Green," while her dancing charmed everybody; Miss Mary Sharples, and Miss Laura Lodge, as the Prince and Princess, are pleasing; and there is an abundance of fun provided by Messrs. Tom Gott (Dame), Jimmy Pullen (Hindbad), both of whom have capital songs, Arthur Ricketts (King), Jack Audley (Whis-Kerino), and Billy Daynes (Captain Reefer). Specialities are given by the Merry Mites and the Six Garden Girls.

ROYAL PALACE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Dibbert. — Good audiences have this week been pleased with the musical comedy "O'Hooligan's Holiday; or, Lady Lanagan, Laundress," the principal parts in which are ably undertaken by Messrs. John Davidson, R. Seath Innes, Sydney Grant, Harry Tresham, Leo Montgomery, Miss Gwynne Warren, and Miss F. Melrose Millett.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. W. James; Assistant-Manager, Mr. D. Casey; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert Moore.—Here a rollicking pantomime has entered a second successful week. Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri have provided an excellent all-round show under the title of "Dick Whittington and His Cat," the whole affair being on an elaborate scale, and well deserving of the great appreciation it has received. Miss May Moore Duprez as Gretchen makes herself exceedingly popular, and introduces several smart songs and dances; that exceedingly funny comedian, Mr. Harry Weldon, proves very droll as Idle Jack, and creates the greater part of the fun; Miss Wilmot Karkeek is a dashing Dick Whittington; Miss Alice Nixon, as Alice, looks pretty, and takes part with Mr. Weldon in a funny rehearsal; while other good supporters include Jack Bland (Emperor), Dudley Walton (King Rat), Miss Josephine Ellis (Princess), Jack Tucker (the Cat), Miss Marjorie Gordon (Fairy), and Miss Gertrude Lytton (Roderick). Charming dancing is introduced by the Lottie Stone Troupe, and Sydney Russell's Eight Stars.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Stokes.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is putting in a second successful week.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company is here this week in "The Great White Chief." Included in the company are Mr. Percy Folliss, Mrs. Chas. Draycott, Mr. Russell Norrie, Mr. Charles E. Johnson, Mr. L. Maitland, Miss Phyllis Elton, Miss Dorothy Charles, Mr. Maurice Love, Mr. Lionel Hardinge, Mr. Fredk. Carr, Mr. Victor Ellerton, Mr. Harry Furniss, and Mr. F. Wilson Lowther.

MAESTEG.

GEM CINEMA.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Local-Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—This week: The Zancigs, mental telepathy; Joe Cookson, ventriloquist, in "The Artist's Studio"; Harlan and Rollison, musicians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

CINEMA DE LUXE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Dooner.—This week: Morelle, comedienne; Dann and Dixie, novelty and musical performers; Hodgson and Lowther, in "A Wise Father"; and pictures. Matinee, Saturday, 3.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Gude.—On Jan. 8 and 9, Messrs. Baring Bros. present E. Taylor Platt's company (by arrangement with Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie) in "Milestones." Characters are sustained by Mr. Gerald Mirrielees, Miss Isabel Fladgate, Miss M. Williams, Mr. J. Farries Moss, Miss Cynthia Burke, Mr. Grahame Herington, Miss Hilda Gregory, Mr. George W. Ruff, Miss Dorothy Hall, Mr. Roy G. Beard, Miss Ida Moon, Mr. Alex Clifton, Mr. Frank Rex, and Mr. Charles F. Dixon.

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter. — The following are the principal turns here this week:—The Six Brothers Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps"; and a new melodramatic sketch; Fred. Shepherd, light comedian; Vona Clifford and Co., in "My Friend the Thief"; Rene, lady juggler; Tom Reno, comedian; and Jennie Claremont, comedienne and dancer.

MANCHESTER.

ROYAL OSBORNE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Cotton.—This week the attraction here is provided by Andie Caine's successful spectacular pantomime. "Dick Whittington," which was seen last week at the King's Theatre, Longsight.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek; Musical-Director, Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Pantomime is put on here twice nightly in the shape of "Beauty and the Beast," by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd. It is an elaborate and attractive show, told in eight scenes, and developed by a clever company. Beauty is charmingly played by Miss Veda Le Court, and a smart Prince is found in Miss Edna Page. Miss Dollie Barrie and Miss Ivy May (the Valet and the Fairy) are also good; and a considerable amount of amusement is provided by a strong band of comedians, notably Mr. Sammy Foster, Mr. Albert Juan (Sammy and the Squire), and Messrs. Grapho and Dalton as the broker's men.

JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. John Mason; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—The experiment of a once-nightly variety programme is being tried here. The show is a good one, headed by Billy Williams, the popular comedian; Joe Maddern and company, in a screaming farce, "Too Many Darlings"; John F. Traynor and company, in the Western romance, "The Devil's Elbow"; and a pot-pourri of dance and music by the Gleesons and Fred Houlihan. Other smart turns are Sisters Brenton, vocalists and dancers; the Three Safes, comedy gymnasts; Harpe and Harper, vocalists and musicians; Hill and Ackerman, comedy acrobats; Alf. Gibson, a quaint comedian; Dot Fra, comedienne; Colbert, the hoop and club expert; and Vardon, the ventriloquist, at the 'phone.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Musical-Director, Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie presents here this week the pantomime "Little Bo-Peep." It is a bright and pleasing production, the principal members of the cast being Miss Marion Fern, Miss Lizzie Payne, Mr. Harry Talbot, and Mr. Harry Ugar. Speciality dances are contributed by Messrs. Albert, Karl Stern, Owen and Wills, and the Malvern Troupe.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cocks; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Hardwick.—A capital holiday programme here is topped by the two Hollanders, entertainers, who introduce their business by a novel cinematograph method, depicting their progress from a Dutch village to the actual stage on which they give their turn. An interesting "exhibit" feature of the bill is Lady Little, the smallest woman in the world; Joe O'Gorman, the Irish comedian, is also a prominent and popular attraction. J. H. Scotland, basso, contributes some excellent vocalism; Larola is well described as a "clever man with funny ways"; the Finney Sisters give a graceful exhibition of tank swimming; Nina Wood, Australian comedienne, gives a charming turn at the piano; the King's College Boys in "A Students' Concert," are well received; and Rose Cabani, vocalist and dancer, scores her usual success.

HIPPODROME. — Managing - Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry; Musical-Director, Mr. Alfred Haines.—Mr. Hengler's picturesque aquatic drama, "The Smuggler," remains here a second week, and is playing to packed houses. A turn of all-round excellence is that of the Three Rascals, in their artistic ragtime vocal scena; and Pyck, Tholl and Taylor as the early Victorians in "The Dancing Master," are responsible for a delightful turn. Novelty is introduced in the programme by the inclusion of Shields and Rodgers, acrobatic lasso manipulators; whilst other entertaining turns of merit are provided by the Asti Troupe of lady acrobats; Signorina Malvilla, Neapolitan soprano; John Weil, the Continental talking prestidigitateur; and Jeff, the clever animal mimic. The pictures are up to their usual high standard.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ivor Harvey; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred J. Wilson.—Mr. Raynor and company are playing here in répertoire, consisting of the following popular plays, "Billy's Little Love Affair," "When We Were Twenty-one," "Jim the Penman," and "Captain Swift." The company appeared last week at the Junction Theatre.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. Peter Watson; Secretary and Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Puss in Boots," played twice nightly, is here a second week, to the delight of full houses.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Musical-Director, Mr. George Neilson.—A good all-round programme here is headed by Katie Butler, that clever character comedienne, who is accorded a hearty reception. America's foremost animal impersonator, Jules Gavillet, very ably supported, is seen to advantage in a lively sketch, "The Man, the Monkey, and the Maid"; Christine Roy, operatic soprano, makes a big hit; and Baker and Gee are highly successful in a pot-pourri of rag-time playing, singing, talking, and dancing. Other smart turns are those of Simplissimus, comedy ragtime conjurer; Trixie Marr's, comedienne; Fred Arthur, comedian; and the Lau[illegible] Trio, in music, harmony, and mimicry. Bert Ly[illegible] comedian, who figures on the programme, did not appear on the night of our visit. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures complete.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Walker.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Mother Goose," scored a hit here on Monday. It is well up to the standard of excellence usually associated with the name of the producer; the scenery and costumes are dainty and attractive; it is packed with humorous and elaborate properties; and comedy and comeliness are the prevailing note. The cast is lengthy and efficient in every part. Miss Blanche Marion as Jack is cleverly partnered by Miss Brenda White as Marjory, and the supernatural element is ably depicted by Mr. Bert D'Arcy as Avarice and Miss Anna Rutland as Benevolence; while in comedy rôles great fun is contributed by Mr. Arthur Carlton as Mother Goose; Messrs. Karr and Kooney, as Parchment, a lawyer, and Squire Swank; and Messrs. Frank Langford and Harry Hughes as Robert and Timothy, members of the force. Many good songs are sung, and entertaining specialities are provided by the Pemm Stevens Quartette of lady dancers and the Three Merry Wags.

ALHAMBRA, OPENSHAW.—Lessees, The Alhambra, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Harney.—This week (twice nightly): May Lilian Levey, comedienne; Ethel Donna, comedienne; Master Sidney, comedian and dancer; Lieut. Chard's Dogs; Sunshine and Shadow; Cliff Ryland, tale teller; Wee Lola and Little Elsie, juvenile entertainers; Ralia and Memphis, speciality dancers; and Kirk and Saraski, girl aquatic marvels. Matinée, Monday and Wednesday, 2.30.

LESLIE'S PAVILION, RUSHOLME. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—This week (once nightly): Ernest Lord's The Excelsiors, including Nora O'Malley, Frank Quinn, Winifred Kaye, Alice Singleton, Harker Holt, Ernest Lord, and Arthur Guilford. Picture matinées daily at 3 p.m.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Aubrey Milliward, Miss Melba Sharrot, Miss Elsie Craven, Mr. G. Hardcastle, Mr. S. Williams, Miss E. White, Mr. G. Pattison, Mr. E. Langford, Miss F. Nutkins, Mr. Tom Verity, Mr. R. Harry Barratt, Miss D. De Florac, Mr. Walter Heal, Mr. W. P. Morgan, and Miss Edith St. George.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Captain Cecil Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Langtree.—This week: The Orpheus Trio, vocalists; George Danton, burlesque comedian; Sisters Astia and Pearl, duettists and dancers; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Slippere, the blind entertainer; Barlow and Brookes, tenor and comedian; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Clifton.—This week (once nightly): Miss Hilda Beverley presents "The White Girl Slave." The company includes: Frank V. Fenn, James Jarrett, Syd Claydon, J. L. Inglis, Jack Armitage, Francis Cavans, Leonard Kendall, N. Hodge, Leonard Condroy, Ned Huzzee, Miss Dorothy Kirke, Miss M. Brammer, Miss Grace Carew, Miss Hilda Beverley. Next week: "A Queen for a Wife."

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—This week: Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter in "The Speckled Band." The company includes: Mr. A. V. Bramble, Mr. Fred C. Leicester, Master Charles St. John, Mr. C. W. Somerset, Miss Maud Gill, Mr. D. Webb, Mr. John Detliv, Miss Lilian Talbot, Mr. Keith J. Shepherd, Mr. C. Douglas Cox, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Hugh Webb, and Mr. Lionel Bevans. Next week: "The Night of the Party."

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: Mr. Chas. Barnard's company presents "The Girl Who Knew a Bit." The company includes: Mr. Frank Lynne, Mr. Val Gurney, Mr. Bert Elden, Mr. Dan Kelsey, Mr. Walter Denham, Mr. George Renton, Mr. William Parker, Mr. E. Watts Phillips, Miss Mabel Coleman, Miss Elsie Marriott Watson, Miss Lillian Drake, Miss Florence Moore, Miss Grace Garside, and Miss Mary Drummond.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA. — General-Manager, Mr. Israel Price. — This week (twice nightly): Miss Doreen O'Connor and company present a refined comedy act, "The Future Lady Watteau"; Charles Matthews, champion jumper; Penman and Miller, gymnastic comedians on triple bars; Ina Lorrimore, Scotch character comedienne; Ned Edwards, Welsh comedian; Cyrus Dare, humorous and mimic; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight; Musical-Director, Mr. G. W. Simpson.—This week: Irve Hayman and company in a midnight episode, "Christmas Eve"; Three Leonas, acrobatic act; Irman Orbasany's cockatoo actors; Ruby Maybutt, comedienne; Ross Warren, comedian; Thornbury, lightning painter; and pictures.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Empire Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Beverley; Musical-Director, Mr. A. E. White.—This week: Two Canadians, in musical act; the Seahams, in comedy speciality act; and pictures.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. R. Chatto.—Mr. Imeson presents "Aladdin and His Lamp" until further notice.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Manager, Mr. J. Imeson. — This week: "Lifeguardsman."

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Parker: This week: Rabottini, in "The Musician's Revolt"; Edith England, vocalist; Four Sollies, in mad moments of vaudeville; Flora McDonald, comedienne and dancer; W. Lambert in "Lucky Nutty Jones"; Charles Emerald and Maude Dupre, in "A Hot Scotch"; Moren and Tingley, dancers; the Five Selbins, cyclists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Thompson; Manager, Mr. S. Gibson.—G. Ray's Eight Football Skating Girls, roller skaters; Duncan's Royal Scotch collies, in "A Motor Mishap"; and the Musical McGregors and pictures.

MORLEY.

NEW PAVILION. — Proprietors, New Pavilion Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George Barry; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Carr.—This week (twice nightly): Mrs. F. Wybert Clive presents "The Outcast of the Family." The company includes: Mr. Wybert Clive, Mr. Robert Dawney, Mr. H. C. Ward, Mr. Tom Roydan, Mr. Fred Luard, Mr. L. Graham-Hamlyn, Mr. Herbert Reed, Mr. M. Platting, Mr. N. Horton, Mr. George Lorena, Mr. E. Melville, Miss Addie Burrows, Miss Freda Becket, and Miss Lily Lewis. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Noica; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Ashley and Goldsmid present "With Edged Tools." The company includes: Mr. Harold Neville, Mr. Fred Emery, Mr. Murray Yorke, Mr. Max Copland, Mr. Alfred Conway, Mr. George Brough, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Miss Pattie Groves, Miss Muriel Haydn, Miss Edith Anton-Laing, and Miss Maud Morton-Powell. Touring-Manager, Mr. H. Montague Ashley. Next week: "The Frontier Queen."

GNOLL HALL.—Proprietors, Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Musical-Director, Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): The Falcons, acrobatic comedians; Godfrey James, singing collier; Camilla Feo, American comedienne and dancer; Rogers and Keezing, Hebrew comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Gilley; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): The Toladonas, in musical act; Cedar and Elgar, comedians; the Wagges; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. The Robert Arthur's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. George Dance's company, "Ben-Hur," remains here. The company, a large and capable one, give individually and collectively a brilliant delineation of the respective characters. As Ben-Hur, Mr. Philip Desborough acts most expressively in the stronger parts of the play; Mr. Douglas Vigors' Messala is a convincing study; and Miss Mildred Cottell as the temptress, Iris, could not have a finer delineation; Miss Eva Rowland is a graceful and artistic Esther; whilst as the mother of Ben-Hur, Miss Edith Blande could not well be improved upon.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Mr. Harry Russell's pantomime, "Cinderella," is doing good business here. Miss Madge Allen is a dashing principal boy, and Miss Lillian Errol could not have been allotted a more pleasing part than Cinderella, her singing and dancing making her a great favourite; Mr. Harry Russell, who fills the rôle of Pickles, is responsible for much of the fun. Others in the cast are Miss Barbara Murray (Fairy), Miss Verna Refa (Dandini), Mr. Colon Bryce (Baron), Mr. Fred Young, and Miss Jesse Jess, as the sisters, &c.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Variety Theatres Controlling Co.; Manager, Mr. W. L. Murray.—Mr. A. Hengler successfully presents "The Redskin," a picturesque spectacle, with wonderful water effects; George Gregory and H.

"The high water mark of popularity."—THE STAGE.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

BERT GILBERT

as BILLY in "TWINKLE LITTLE STAR."

"Mr. Bert Gilbert was at times delicious as Billy."—**"Birmingham Gazette."**

"Bert Gilbert is going to be a huge success."—**"Birmingham Weekly Post."**

"Bert Gilbert is going to be a huge success; he already has a big budget of funny asides, and has unlimited opportunities of which he is bound to make full use. His wheeze will soon be heard in our streets. Bert Gilbert's catch phrase, 'You're looking fine,' should be prophetic of the management when the pantomime has settled down for what will be a long and prosperous run."—**"Birmingham Weekly Post,"** December 28, 1912.

"Birmingham,

"December 30, 1912.

"DEAR MR. GILBERT,—

"On behalf of 'a few of the oldest Birmingham Playgoers,' allow us to again offer you our sincere congratulations upon your creation of Billy in this year's pantomime at the Prince of Wales' Theatre.

"How we have missed you for the last few years! Every year we have anxiously searched the bills for your name, only to be disappointed. However, you are here now, and the sight of you takes our memory back over a number of years, to the first pantomime in which we saw you in Birmingham.

"It was in the same theatre as you are now. *Puss in Boots.*

"What a splendid pantomime! And standing out amongst a company of 'stars' was yourself, Bert Gilbert. A mere boy, but possessing that rare commodity, the true instinct of unexaggerated comedy. What a treat to our almost satiated appetite was your rendering of 'Molly, and I, and the Baby'; your 'Automatic Toy Doll,' and your 'Altogether.' Everything you served was dished up in such a bright and new style that we swallowed each item with avidity, and we left the theatre feeling as refreshed as if we had just returned from a trip to the sea-side.

"Then again, your Baron Boozy in *The Babes in the Wood* at the same theatre; your quarrel with the cat'man; your clean, harmless, three star drunk. Even now, many years afterwards, we laugh at the remembrance of it. But your Choddles in *Cinderella!* There was a positive creation.

"The scene with Cinderella was so beautifully played that there was not a dry eye in the house.

"Fancy crying in the midst of a pantomime! But it was not for long. A quick change of manner, a merry quip, and the audience roared again

"It was quite 'Robsonian.' It electrified us, and set us thinking as to the possibilities of a Pantomime Comedian. What a change from the old bing, bash, wallop comedian. Here was an artist, painting a picture before our very eyes, and finishing it off with the true touch of genius.

"No wonder that the picture still lives, and the artist who painted it holds a sacred position in our memories

"We have watched your career in Australia, and noted with satisfaction your succession of triumphs there.

"Now you are back again, the same old Bert Gilbert, delighting your old friends and gaining new.

"It is such a joy for us to have you and be able to tell you in your own catch phrase, 'You're looking fine.'

"You have visited many far-off countries since we saw you last, and have been in many a hot corner of the globe, but the hottest corner on the hottest day you have ever experienced is not warmer than the little corner that has been kept in the hearts of your Birmingham friends.

"Wishing you the best of 'Good Luck' for the New Year.

"Three Old Birmingham Playgoers."

"Mr. Bert Gilbert was at times delicious as Billy. When he warms to his task and things settle down he will be as near the perfect funny man as it is possible. He sings and dances with neatness, and Tuesday's audience appreciated his efforts immensely."—**"Birmingham Gazette,"** December 26, 1912.

"The comedy element is particularly strong. Bert Gilbert, as Billy, has many adventures during the visit of Princess Twinkle to Mother Earth, and the subsequent search for her after she has returned to Starland is extremely funny; and in songs, duets, and dialogue, when acting as auctioneer at the sale of Jack's Dog, he kept the audience rocking with laughter, and he was equally successful as the railway porter."—**"Birmingham Evening Despatch,"** December 26, 1912.

"Mr. Bert Gilbert, a very hard worker, is the funny man, here called Billy. We see Billy rejuvenating himself by means of draughts of the Water of Youth at Droitwhat Wells—rejuvenating himself so thoroughly that he gets back ten thousand years and is changed into a monkey before our eyes! One believes in Billy as a schoolboy, as a baby, almost as a monkey. Of the jokes of the pantomime few come to mind as likely to bear the test of an appearance in cold type. In a merry little scene at a tea-table Billy fires off at Margery one of the happiest of them. 'Do you,' he asks, 'know the Dewar-Dewars?' 'I do not,' replies the too-honest-to-be-a-social-success Margery; 'is it a single name?' 'No,' says Billy, 'I think there's a syphon in between.' Of political chaff we rightly get little—but the Insurance Act is described by Billy in the course of a piece of musical dialogue as a 'Caprice by Lloyd George.'"—**"Birmingham Daily Post,"** December 26, 1912.

Dainty and Charming

MISS IVY RAY

as MARGERY in "TWINKLE LITTLE STAR."

"The personification of daintiness and charm."—THE STAGE.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT" AT BRADFORD.

Mr. John Hart has selected for this year's Christmas annual, at the Theatre Royal, a subject which has not been extensively used in this district, and that prolific pantomime writer, Mr. J. Hickory Wood, has treated the old nursery rhyme in capital style. The witty dialogue is liberally sprinkled with local topics, and additional lyrics by Mr. T. F. Doyle. The first of the ten scenes included in the pantomime is Durden's Farm, where the Demon Rodento and Fairy Felina are at daggers drawn. The Fairy has taken Jack (Dame Durden's son) under her protection, and she maintains that he shall discover a hidden bag of magic malt which will raise the family from poverty, and the Demon vows that he will frustrate the Fairy's plans. Dawn changes to morning, and the assembled dairymaids and farmhands indulge in a pretty chorus and rustic ballet. Here enter a band of gipsies with one Charity, who was stolen when a child; Gabriel, the chief, commands her to sing and dance; Charity refuses, and she is being ill-treated, when Jack enters and rescues her, and in a free fight the gipsies are worsted. Charity is offered a home by Dame Durden. Prince Prettifello (the Durdens' landlord) enters and complains of the neglecting of the farm by the idle Bill Durden, whom he threatens to eject, but Jack's sister Sue and Charity subsequently persuade the Prince to let Jack have the farm. Bill is offered a post as steward on board the Prince's yacht, just going on a cruise; the Dame goes as stewardess; Sammy, a Yorkshire farm hand, is to be cook's boy; Jack is to go as a handy man, and Sue and Charity as guests; and we arrive at the Yacht Club, where some excellent numbers are introduced, and a change is made to On Board the Yacht, a very fine setting. Here the fun is prolific, but a terrific storm tosses the yacht unmercifully, and the scene changes to the Customs House, where amateur attempts at smuggling elicit roars of laughing.

We have arrived now at the Old Barn, where Jack discovers the magic malt, aided by the Fairy, but in revenge the Demon wrecks the barn, which the Fairy transforms to a lovely scene, the Barley Harvest. The following scene is the Gardens of the Palace, where the Prince avows his love for Sue. Bill and the Dame determine on divorce, and they seek the aid of Sammy, now clerk to the Mayor of Muddleup, who runs a matrimonial agency, where the fun is rampant. The Prince is dissatisfied with Jack's attention to the rebuilding of the barn, and he will not listen to his supplication for the hand of Charity (who turns out to be the long-lost sister of the Prince) until he can build a house worthy of Charity's elevated station, and prove that he can maintain her. All this Jack accomplishes with the Fairy's aid; he is united to Charity, Sue is wedded to the Prince, and all ends happily.

In all Mr. Hart's productions the beauty of the scenery is a feature, and on this occasion the skill of the resident scenic artist, Mr. D. G. Hall, stands out prominently. Durden's Farm is beautifully painted; On Board the Yacht is a most realistic bit of work; the Barley Harvest is rich in its golden colouring and warmth of treatment; the Gardens of the Palace is a very charming conception, with delightful harmony in the flower effects; and the Pavilion is a very beautiful and brilliant example of scenic art. Mrs. Thornton is to be congratulated on the way in which she has utilised her opportunities in carrying out the beautiful designs for the dresses; the composing, selecting, and arranging of the music has been entirely done by Mr. Robert Sedgwick, and his good taste and skill are noticeable in the bright and charming numbers he has introduced. Mme. Louie has arranged the beautiful ballets and children's scenes, several of the latter being pretty and strikingly original.

Humour is, of course, the keynote in the working out of the story, and the comedians of the company keep the audience in one continuous roar of laughter. Miss Nan C. Hearne is a handsome hero, and vocally she is successful with "Oh, you beautiful doll!" "The songs we love," "Who were you with last night?" and in a duet with Charity—viz., "I'd like to go on a honeymoon." Mr. Will Ambro is a highly diverting Dame Durden, and he has some capital songs, notably "Why do the men run after me?" and "You all want something to cuddle." Mr. Harry Cole is a genuine comedian, and his Bill Durden is particularly funny. His songs—viz., "They all walk the wibbly-wobbly walk," and "I was looking back to see"—are amusing, and he is good in the laughable "Silly thing" duet with the Dame. Miss Madge Crichton is an old favourite here, and she already promises to add to her laurels in the picturesque character of Charity, which she plays charmingly. Her songs are "I'm sorry" and "Joshu-ah," and she renders them delightfully. Mr. W. H. Irving is very droll as the Yorkshire farm hand, Sammy, and he renders "I don't care" and "Ring o' roses" with rare humour. Mr. Ambrose Barker looks smart, and is easy going as Prince Prettifello, with the following well-sung songs—viz., "Mr. Cupid" and "Toddling home." Mr. Charles Kay, with his fine stage presence, makes the pompous Mayor of Muddleup rather a striking personality, and he sings well "The rag-time mayor." Mr. Kit Keen is an ideal nigger, with a fund of humour as Woof, the coon cabin-boy, which is irresistible; his songs, "Rag-time violin" and "Hello, Susie Green!" are much enjoyed. Mr. Jocelyn Hope's Demon Rodento is a capable and vigorous dramatic effort, and he is effective in his duet with the Fairy. Miss Daisy Stratton, in the part of Guy, chauffeur to the Prince, looks handsome, and her bearing is charming; "I do like you, Susie, in your Sunday clothes" and "I wish you belonged to me" are her nicely rendered contributions. Miss Edith Delanev is chic and pretty as Sue, and she makes her song, "Little shepherdess of Devon" go well. Miss Bebe Hutchinson is a charming and dainty Fairy Felina, and she sings with expression "Only a faded rose." Messrs. Joe Freeman (Tom Fast) and Alf West (Ben Slow) contribute to the fun as merry muddling mariners, and Mr. Arthur Longthorne does well as Gabriel, a gipsy. On Boxing Day the energetic stage-manager, Mr. John A. Howitt, had the satisfaction of successfully launching the pantomime, which went with remarkable smoothness from start to finish.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Probably there is no original pantomime in the provinces which attracts more attention from leading lights in the profession than the production at the Alexandra, Birmingham. The proprietor, Mr. Leon Salberg, is a thorough business man, and he and his talented musical-director, Mr. Herbert Barnes (who is also producer), have spent months in arranging what they were determined would be a record pantomime. They have succeeded, for never in the history of the theatre has such a magnificent and costly production as "Robinson Crusoe" been presented. The settings are striking and the plot so full of variety that expert stage-management is necessary, and in Mr. Bruce Lindley there is the right man in the right place. The book is by Mr. J. L. Barry, and the music, which is beautiful throughout, is by Mr. Herbert Barnes.

Defoe's delightful story is followed on quite traditional lines. That is to say, it is honoured more in the breach than the observance, for, fortunately for him, the original Robinson never reached the bottom of the sea, while it is here—according to the "Alexandra" reading—that the most delightful things happened. Still, it is merely a question of drawing on one's imagination, and Defoe was a master of that art! There are several magnificent scenes, but the one outstanding is "Aphrodite's Aquatic Boudoir in Ocean's Deepest Depths." Here is introduced an imposing spectacle. The ballet are assembled in gorgeous costumes, and Joyce Barbour, a pretty little girl, pirouettes in delightful fashion, while Rose Tyrrell's Alexandra Troupe form a striking feature with their clever dancing. Robinson Crusoe appears on the scene, and also Aphrodite, and then—the audience rise like one man, cheering to the echo, for there has slowly appeared in the background a model Dreadnought, composed of 45,000 crystals wired together into one compact whole. This triumph of craftsmanship glided on to the stage illuminated by powerful electric lamps, to the accompaniment of an appropriate patriotic song, rendered by the principal boy. Warm praise is due to Mr. W. Steele Jones and his staff for producing such a handsome property. Before mentioning the artistes, another good feature must be dealt with. That is the revival of the old-time trap business. There are star-traps, square traps, and oblong traps in Crusoe's hut, and here Mr. J. W. Cawdrey performs some wonderful feats. He is splendidly supported by the antics of Aldio Lukos, the monkey, and Will Francis, the dog.

There are no "passengers" in the company. Bert Harrow is the leader of the comedy merchants. One could not wish to see a funnier or more versatile pirate. He is here, there, and everywhere, singing, gagging, and leading concerteds with fine effect. His trombone number creates roars of laughter, but his masterpiece is "Woolloomooloo," a tricky chorus song, and the idea of one of the Brothers Norman working the chorus from a box is an excellent one. Bert Harrow has quickly established himself a favourite. Another comedian who has made a name for himself is Joe R. Tyrrell, a youth fra' Lancashire. He is in many ways reminiscent of the great Dan Leno. When he smiles the audience smile, and when he gags the audience rock with laughter. He got right home with his song, "Ring-a-roses." The Brothers Norman are genuine hard workers. Their make-up is exceedingly funny, and their knockabout business is above the average. They are always prominent and are a power of strength. Jay Kay as the Dame has a good part, which he fills successfully; Johnny Woods as Man Friday sings a coon song delightfully and he dances artistically. Frank Probyn displays distinctive dramatic art, and he renders his song in excellent baritone voice.

Now for the ladies, who are in themselves a great attraction. Ray Ford, the principal girl, has increased her popularity in Birmingham. On the opening night she looked charming in her beautiful dresses of great variety. Her singing and dancing were perfect, and she was inundated with presents. The audience joined in her choruses with great enthusiasm, particularly in "I want to go to Dixie," "Who were you with last night?" and "If I belonged to you." The latter suits her admirably. Tall, stately and handsome is Myra Hannon, the principal boy. She was an undoubted success, and rendered her songs beautifully. They are "We all went walking round," "There's a girl in Havana," "Garden of love," and "Monarch of the seas." Monica Ellestree and Mona Magnet are two charming ladies, who are second boy and second girl respectively. The former sang sweetly "My heart is with you to-night," and Mona Magnet worked "Patricia" remarkably well. This young lady displayed considerable talent and should go far in the profession. Katie Barnes has little to do, but she looks very dainty. To sum up, every person interested in pantomimes should see this production.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Birmingham has got just what it wanted in the brilliant pantomime "Goody Two Shoes," produced at the Theatre Royal on Boxing Night by Mr. William Clark, under the supervision of Mr. Philip Rodway, the general-manager. The book is the work of Mr. J. James Hewson; Mr. Harry Rushworth has arranged the music; and the ballet-mistress is Miss Fanny Boulton. There are all the essentials of a successful pantomime—one of the strongest casts in the provinces, wholesome comedy, good sentiment, and excellent spectacle and scenery.

Like most pantomimes, "Goody Two Shoes" takes abduction as its theme. Goody Two Shoes (Miss Maie Ash) is abducted by the Red Dwarf, who is tired of dwelling friendless and alone in his mysterious castle, and Robin Goodfellow (Miss Nellie Wigley) defies all the powers of evil guarding the castle, and makes his way eventually to the castle ramparts, where he kills the dwarf in a long, fiercely fought combat. Another part which gives room for sound, straight acting is that of the Squire, played by the old pantomime hand, Mr. Alfred Clark. This squire is the proprietor of the general emporium, where the abduction takes place in highly dramatic manner. In this scene there is one of the big spectacles of the show—the Fair of Fashions, illustrating the changes in women's dress during the Elizabethan, Stuart, Georgian, and modern periods.

The first scene in the pantomime shows a village green, with a flower-covered cottage on the one side, and on the other a half-timbered old hostel, the Stop and Step Inn, kept by Mother Hubbard (George Robey, in one of his inimitable Dame disguises). At the back runs a river, with a stone bridge over it. Other notable scenes represent the Coppices, the Golden Harvest by the Silver Pool, and the Enchanted Gardens.

With regard to the artistes, George Robey, as Dame, stands out as chief comedy merchant. Everything he does bears the trace of his individuality, and no pantomime performer is more popular in the Midlands. His acting throughout is excellent. His chief songs with patter are "The landlady," "Tempt me not," and "Footprints in the snow." One cannot speak too highly of Miss Nellie Wigley, principal boy, and Miss Maie Ash, principal girl. They are admirably matched, and are always welcome. They are also beautifully dressed, and look very attractive. Miss Ash is a particularly charming lady, and her rendering of the popular rag-time numbers "Dixie" and "Beautiful doll" are strong features of the production. In her duets and speaking parts she is also highly successful, and she will become a big favourite. Sprightly and pretty, Miss Wigley has abundant confidence, and so impressive was she that she might have been playing the part for the hundredth time. She has three strong numbers in "Back to Scotland," "Who were you with last night?" and "Mysterious rag."

Fred Conquest is prominent as the dog Fido, giving a delightful animal study, full of quaint touches. His bark is the real thing, and he will be a great friend of the children. The Brothers McNaughton are hard workers and create roars of laughter during their burlesque boxing match. Harry Kisbey is effective as Fluffles, and renders a good coon song, Charles Goff is a typical villain, and Alfred Clarke is good as the Squire. Nellie Gallafont has every reason to be proud of her reception. She is a sweet, attractive young lady with a big future. She sang "Joshua" delightfully. Alice Venning, the fairy, possesses a beautiful voice; Florence Phillips is seen in one of her artistic dances, and the Tiller Troupe often enhanced the brightness of the proceedings. The ballet is arranged on a magnificent scale, and is a prominent feature in a pantomime which is an unqualified success.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT BRIGHTON.

Enthusiastic applause and the merriest of laughter frequently rang through the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Boxing Day afternoon, during the initial performance of "Red Riding Hood," and the production, running smoothly from beginning to end, was accorded such a hearty welcome that there is no doubt it will enjoy a long and successful career. The book, by Mr. Fred A. Marston, is smartly written, and presents an admirable version of the old story, while topical and political items are introduced with telling effect. The scenery, by Mr. George Whyatt, merits warm commendation, especially delightful being the sets which depict the Glade in Summer, with a wonderfully effective change to the Glade in Winter, and the final one, descriptive of the Home of Electrica. These were splendid spectacular displays, rendered especially brilliant by the magnificent profusion of electric lights. The dresses were handsome and prettily designed, and were seen to especial advantage in the charming groupings incidental to several of the delightful stage pictures. The music, arranged and composed by Signor G. D. la Camera, is tuneful and sparkling in character, and includes several effective concerted vocal pieces. Messrs. Dan Rose and J. Greatorex are responsible for the mechanical effects; the properties are by Mr. E. Frape; and the electrical effects by Mr. B. Morley; while Miss A. Clarence is wardrobe mistress.

The pantomime, produced and stage-managed by Mr. Fred A. Marston, under the supervision of Mr. Ben Court, is not only attractive by reason of the artistic beauty of its spectacular triumphs, for it includes plenty of wholesome robust fun, humour, and frolic, and also some charming dancing. The members of the company entrusted with the representations of the leading characters included several popular favourites, who took part in last season's successful "Cinderella" pantomime, and who had very cordial receptions extended to them. Miss Queenie Essex captivated all hearts with her bright, graceful, and winsome impersonation of Red Riding Hood. She looked the part to perfection, and, displaying sweet and artistic vocalisation, elicited warm applause for her renderings of "When mother was one-and-twenty," "That rag-time walk with baby," and "The dawn of love." She promises to become as great a favourite as she was last season as Cinderella. Miss Louie Beckmann made an ideal Boy Blue, the lover of Red Riding Hood. She acted with dash and vivacity, and achieved great successes in her finished treatment of the songs, "Take me back to your garden of love" and "My home in Dixie Land." Miss Vi Hartley as Tommy Tucker and Miss Lily Hartley as Miss Muffit proved themselves clever dancers, and scored heavily in the duet, "That mysterious rag." Miss Dora Sawyer was admirably suited as Fairy Electrica, and was heard to great advantage in the song, "Bye-bye land." Messrs. Stacey and Williams, introduced in the programme as "last year's brokers' men in again," were hosts in themselves as Jimmy Green, "a yeller," and Johnny Stout, "mild and bitter." Their comic pranks and drolleries, and their amusing patter, kept the house rippling with laughter; their nimble and clever dancing won the neartiest of appreciation, and they were most entertaining in their duets, "Ain't it peculiar?" and "Ring o' roses." These clever comedians were ably supported in the fun-making by Mr. George Campbell, who was highly diverting as Dame Durden. Mr. Charles Russell was well placed as the villainous Squire Out-and-Out; and Mr. Frank Bolger, who cleverly enacted the Wolf, was highly effective in his singing of "Will o' the wisp." The well-trained chorus sang in pleasing style, and were heard at their best in "The shadows of the night are falling."

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT CHELTENHAM.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," was produced on Boxing Day at the Cheltenham Theatre and Opera House, and achieved instant success. Mr. Fred Bowyer's book is bright and up to date, and the incidental music by Mr. George H. Hall harmonises nicely with the merry spirit of the whole production, which is in the responsible hands of Mr. Charles Brandon. The story is soon told. When the Saucy Sally sails from the ancient port of Hull for the Island of Golden Palms with a useful cargo of hairpins and top hats she carries aboard Crusoe, Mrs. Crusoe, and Sweetheart Polly (in disguise). The ship is wrecked, but the human freight is saved, and soon good chance brings all together on the Island; but not until Crusoe has had many adventures, including a visit to the Caves, which lie fathoms deep beneath the sea. Once on the Island Friday is quickly encountered and rescued in the orthodox style, and then we are introduced to Crusoe's hut and the monkey, whose tricks are remarkably realistic. The happy climax soon follows, Miss Crusoe being wooed and won by the Sultan. That monarch's palace forms the gorgeous setting for the final tableau. The Port of Hull is a pretty scene, and the Nymphs' Garden under the sea is delightful.

The principals work untiringly, and the fun is fast and furious from start to finish, the humour being real and the jokes witty and entirely devoid of vulgarity. Miss Elsie Allen, with the advantage of previous experience in the part, is practically perfect as Robinson Crusoe; she dances with lightest of feet and sings vivaciously, perhaps her chief success being "Alexander's rag-time band." Miss Jean Allistone as Pretty Polly Hopkins is the demurest little maid, with a sweet voice and winning manner. Her rendering of "Joshua" is charming, and in the "Gaby glide," performed with Mr. Teddy Carlton, one of the chief successes is scored. The latter gentleman, in the rôle of Will Atkins, is responsible for much of the side-aching, his chief hit being "I'm the guy." Mr. David Keir has a charm of his own as Friday, and Mr. Cyril Chambers is excellent as the Sultan of Banaboomba. Mr. E. Harvey White as Mrs. Crusoe is a nimble and "attractive" Dame, his singing of "My pram" and "What Percy picked up in the park" being exceedingly diverting. Mr. Denis Lyndon and Mr. Harry Benet represent the Captain and the Mate of the Saucy Sally, and play up to each other in inimitable fashion, their drollery being spontaneous and much to the taste of the audience. M. Leon Dubois, as the Monkey, gives a wonderful exhibition of acrobatism; Mr. Cyril Chambers sings admirably as Davy Jones, and Miss Julia Williams is pleasing as the Fairy Aphrodite. Miss Louie Danby does well as Bob Halyard, and Miss Gladys Allen scores as Sally Primrose; Bombala is represented ably by Mr. Rex Kay, and the principal dancer is Miss Ruth Varnia. The chorus are comely songsters, nicely dressed and drilled, they and the augmented orchestra being under the direction of Mr. Geo. H. Hall. Full harlequinade is provided at matinées.

"ALADDIN" AT CROYDON.

On Monday, at the Hippodrome, Croydon, Mr. Edward Marris presented his pantomime, "Aladdin," before a large audience, which quickly showed in the usual way its appreciation of an attractive and enjoyable entertainment. Mr. Marris himself has written and arranged the book, and has adhered to the familiar version so long recognised on the stage. The plot is pieced together in a witty and spirited style, which makes an altogether exhilarating show. The music has been selected in an effective manner, many tuneful numbers being by permission of Messrs. Feldman, Francis, Day, and Hunter, Star Publishing Co., and Lawrence Wright and Co. A supply of excellent scenery has been provided by Charles H. Frampton and assistants, particularly elaborate and artistic being the sets Aladdin's Palace and Widow Twankey's Laundry. Other items that have received the best possible attention are the picturesque and handsome dresses and the shapely chorus. Miss Ethel Ward plays with plenty of confidence in the title-rôle, and acts with force and vigour. She is a painstaking artiste, and has made genuine strides into favouritism. The coquettish ways of Miss Kathleen Severne admirably fit the character of Princess Badroulbadour. She hits the part off in the happiest manner, and may be congratulated upon her success. Miss Lola Brandt acts in a fascinating style as Pekoe, and is much appreciated. She dresses the part to perfection. Miss Evelyn Desa is all that could be wished as the bewitching laundry maid, Saucee, and she dances nicely. Mr. Walter Brodie, an excellent stage-manager, possesses a never-failing fund of humour as Wishee Washee, and he is full of activity. Mr. Louis James' impersonation of the Widow Twankey is stamped with genuine humour, and he keeps the audience in a very merry mood with his jokes and quaint business. Mr. Harrington Weeks scores a triumph with a well-thought-out rendering of Abanazar, which adds much to the enjoyment. Exceedingly whimsical is the acting of the Brothers Cullane as Koppinpi and Droppinki, and their performance would be hard to improve upon. Mr. Lionel Scott as the Emperor and Mr. George Weldon as the Vizier keep on good terms with visitors; and others who deserve a word of praise are Mr. W. E. Chewd (Slave of the Lamp), Miss May Conroy (Genie of the Ring), and the Brothers King (Sochinpi and Topholeki). Mr. Powley may be said to have scored another success.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT DERBY.

The annual pantomime at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Derby, which opened on Boxing Day, is "The Babes in the Wood," produced by Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon's company. The part of the principal boy, Robin Hood, is excellently accounted for by Miss Maud Beaumont, whose songs, "Who were you with last night?" "Where, where, where did you leave the girls?" "Cock-a-doodle-do," and "The girls all dote on a military man," are quickly taken up. Maid Marian has a delightful exponent in Miss Ruby Emmerson, whose tuneful voice is heard to advantage in "The little shepherdess of Devon," "The rag-time goblin man," &c. The characters of Will Scarlet and Trixie are equally well sustained by the Sisters St. Julien, who earn hearty praise for their duets, "Dear old Tennessee" and "Lady Angeline," and their dancing also calls for commendation. The Babes are capitally impersonated by Misses Laurie and Elsie, who tastefully sing "The Mississippi dip," and dance very well. Tom and Neil, and Bubble and Squeak, are extremely amusing, and their burlesque boxing and wrestling specialities prove them to be in the front rank of knockabout comedians. Clarence Turner, as James, is another praiseworthy comedian, and his Lancashire patter is full of fun. Billy Carson burlesques the dame with excellent humour; and Jack Terrie as the Baron is in every way successful. The part of Friar Tuck is in the hands of a robust baritone, Walter Buxton, and his songs, "Just dreams" and "The trumpeter" are heartily received. The remaining characters are ably undertaken by Misses Nora Macdermott, Lily C. Bell, and Messrs. W. and A. Rochester. The specialities comprise Rochester's sextette of vocalists and dancers, who gain hearty applause; and the Eight Sunbeams, pleasing little girl dancers and singers. The pantomime is a very entertaining one, and the settings and costumes are both costly and pleasing. Altogether, there is every indication that the production will have a successful run.

"CINDERELLA" AT DUBLIN.

The Dublin Gaiety has for many years been renowned for its Christmas pantomime, and the local public look forward for many months to the annual feast of fun, splendour and bright music. "Cinderella" was produced on Boxing Night to a house packed from floor to ceiling. The book, written by Stanley Rogers, treats the story coherently and furnishes some smart and witty dialogue. The scenic effects are, of course, a great feature in the production, and in this department Mr. James Hicks has excelled himself. The Forest Glade and the Fairy Boudoir (which ends the first half) are delightful specimens of the scenic artist's work, and the entry of the magic coach with real ponies forms a fitting climax. In the second half, which contains four scenes, we have the Royal Ballroom, a blaze of light, brilliant in colouring, and finely designed. The last scene of all, "Love's Young Dream," wherein Cinderella enters on the arm of her Prince, surrounded on all sides by courtiers and retainers, is a glittering spectacle of chaste design and brilliant colouring.

The costumes and dresses are new for this production, and they certainly looked it, for a more picturesque selection it would be difficult to make. The resources of the great musical houses are heavily levied for lively and entrancing songs, and Mr. James Haworth has certainly added to the success of the pantomime by the sparkling music he has composed, and by his spirited conducting of the well-trained orchestra.

Miss Violet Manica presents a very charming study of the heroine. A gifted and sympathetic actress, she scored a huge success, and her singing of "What the rose said to me" and "The land of I dunno where" aroused vigorous applause. Miss Barbara Babington is cast for the part of Prince Casimir, and is undoubtedly going to be one of the most popular principal boys that ever graced the stage of the Gaiety. Possessed of a delightful stage presence, a pleasing mezzo-soprano voice, and a natural boyishness, she at once became a firm favourite. All her numbers are capitally rendered, and her singing of "The girl in Havanna" fairly brings down the house. She also has "The mysterious rag" (with suitable chorus) and gives a delightful rendering of the sentimental success, "Take me back to the garden of love." Miss Katie Marsh, who plays Dandini, is a lively young lady, delightfully irrepressible, and her songs, "Let's share all the girls" and "Mr. Cupid," have become immensely popular.

The parts of the Ugly Sisters are played this year by two ladies, and the performances of Miss Dolly Harmer and Miss Heron-Brown go a long way towards the success of the pantomime. The former, as Elvira, is one of the best comediennes seen in Dublin for a considerable time, and her rendering of the comic effusion, "Oh, Mary!" is certainly one of the "hits" of the production. Miss Heron-Brown is a thorough artiste, and as the old maid, Araminta, she causes many a hearty laugh.

Mr. Martin Adeson, the well-known dame impersonator, has been seen here before, and his reception nightly is that of an old and firm favourite. As Tiny, the Baron's wife, he has a part that fits him like a glove, and his characteristic drollery and original humour are highly appreciated. His songs, including "Why do the men run after me?" were quickly taken up, and his patter was as laughable as ever. Mr. Reginald Switz plays the impecunious Baron and proves himself a really humorous comedian, his many interludes with "his better half" causing roars of laughter. He has a decided winner in the comic spelling song, "Woolloomoo'oo." Will Atom as Capers seems to possess unlimited energy and is always in the picture. Miss Dorothy Wills makes an ideal Fairy, and possesses a sweetly sympathetic voice. Others worthy of praise are Miss Ena Dale, as Duke of Whistbridge, and Mr. Henry Carlisle, whose acting as Joseph the Flunkey is very humorous. During the evening the Danish première danseuse, Mlle. Britta, treats the audience to some brilliant exhibitions of the terpsichorean art, and with her able partner, Mons. Montevsky, has a most cordial reception.

The pantomime includes some beautifully arranged ballets, which reflect the greatest credit on the ballet mistress, Miss Kate Brandon. The local allusions by Mr. P. Byrne are bright and breezy. To Mr. Frank Harrison, the producer, nothing but praise is due, and Mr. Charles Hyland, the ever-popular manager, is to be heartily congratulated upon another addition to the long line of successful pantomimes under his able managership.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT GLASGOW.

The management of the Savoy Theatre, Glasgow, have entrusted Mrs. Lillie Williams with the production of a pantomime here, and her choice is the late Fred Locke's version of "Dick Whittington," which is also being played at the King's, Edinburgh. The Savoy production is being given twice nightly, and a crowded house heartily enjoyed it on Saturday, Dec. 28. The libretto contains many excellent and telling lines and the old story is clearly set out. Though the pantomime suffered somewhat from want of rehearsal, more especially between the singers and the band, these defects could not hide the many bright and lively bits of fun provided by the comedians. Miss Kathleen Gray makes a handsome Dick, acted with lots of dash, and sang all her songs with excellent effect. Miss Vi Laurie is a dainty and quiet Alice, who dances with neatness and grace, and sang her various items in a sweet and tuneful voice. Mr. Sam Thomson is a resourceful comedian, and, as Idle Jack, he puts in lots of work. His quaint humour takes well, and he was responsible for most of the laughs. One of his best scenes is a burlesque operatic ballad, where he figures as a conductor, and a young lady, whose name was not given, sings with good effect; this item was enthusiastically encored. Mr. Harry Farrow is an amusing Mary Ann, and her love-making with Idle Jack is highly comic. Mr. Diamond worked hard as the unfortunate Fitzwarren. As the Princess Sausperella, Miss Edie Gorf acted her part well, and, despite a very bad cold, made a success with the catchy song, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie." Mr. William Matheson, as King Rat, and Miss Kathleen Emmett, as Fairy Bowbell, declaim their lines well, and are both good singers. Miss Gladys Wyse danced a Highland dance with neat effect, and aided by a tiny little girl made a big hit with "Maggie M'Fee." Julian, as the Cat; Mr. Bob Stephenson, as Captain Bailey; Mr. Harold Perry, as the Sultan; Schweppe Brothers, as two sailors; and Les Raymonds, as Tom Bowline and Susan, all ably helped in their respective parts. The Six Killarney Girls and the Texas Comedy Quartette introduced speciality items.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR" AT HANLEY.

Messrs. Charles G. Elphinstone, Baron Harris, and C. St. John Denton without doubt have a winner in "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Royal, Hanley. Large audiences have attended at every performance, and on all sides the verdict is: "The best ever presented in the Potteries." The scenery and dresses are most artistic, the principals are well chosen, and the capital chorus and specialities add considerably to the success. Mr. Alfred Wellesley is one of the best dames ever seen here, his Mrs. Sinbad being very funny. His "Big bassoon" and "Woolloomooloo" songs are keenly enjoyed. Messrs. Harrigan and Holt keep the humour flowing continuously, singing "Paper-bag cookery" with great success. Miss Ellaline Thorne is excellent as Sinbad, the principal boy, her chief songs being "Mister Cupid" and "My heart is with you to-night," and "Alexander's rag-time band" as a duet with the envoy, Mr. Jack Leopold, who sings and dances artistically. As Ruby, the principal girl, a decided success is made by Miss Norah Neville. She has a dainty manner, and sings "Patricia" and "I'd like to go on a honeymoon" tastefully. Mr. Harry Reynolds is a great favourite as the Storm Fiend, his fine baritone voice being admirably employed in the songs allotted him. Hinbad (Mr. Billy Harman) is responsible for much fun. Miss Marjory Neville as Zoe is good, a speciality dance she introduces being excellently done. Miss Kirk Vincent plays with vivacity as Abdallah. Miss Phyllis Ashwell as the Fairy sings sweetly and plays artistically. Mr. Tom Macfarlane is capital as the Old Man of the Sea; Miss Queenie Laurence is an alluring Mermaid; and Mr. Leon Simkin is good as the Emperor. Kirby's Aerial Ballet is proving a novel attraction. The Harvard Sextette introduce several clever dances and vocal numbers; they are a decided acquisition to the pantomime, and a capital minstrel burlesque is introduced in Scene 6. Mr. Claud B. Yearsley has arranged the music, and

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ANOTHER TRIUMPH
At COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

Read the Opinion of the Liverpool Press:—

MISS WARD'S TRIUMPH.

Miss Dorothy Ward gives her **colleagues** a **rousing lead. No one** was **ever better adapted for the part of principal "boy."** She has not only **striking beauty** and **splendid stage presence in her favour** but **has winning vivacity, resourcefulness** and **a rich voice** which **she knows how to use.** On Saturday night she was not only **repeatedly recalled,** but had bouquets and other gifts showered on her in embarrassing number.—*Evening Echo.*

A more competent company of artistes than that engaged for "Tommy Tucker" it would be hard to find. Miss Dorothy Ward is obviously a **prime favourite.** On Saturday night she had quite an ovation when she stepped on to the stage, and the number of gifts in the form of bouquets, baskets of flowers, chocolates, and other souvenirs, handed up to her in the course of the performance must have constituted a "first-night" record. They numbered at least a score. Miss Ward is not only endowed with a **particularly fascinating presence,** but she **acts** with **intelligence** and **she sings** with a **sweetness** and an **artistic finish far too rare among principal "boys."** She has several good songs, the best of which is "My Heart is with you to-night, Love," sung very feelingly in Scene VI. Miss Ward also joins with her husband (Mr. Shaun Glenville) in a droll duet, "You Beautiful Doll."—*Express.*

Miss Dorothy Ward, who takes the part of Tommy Tucker, **was especially successful,** and if she continues as she has begun will be surfeited with flowers and chocolates. Miss Ward introduces a **pleasing enthusiasm** into her work. This was strikingly exemplified on Saturday when, at the end of the performance, she kissed the stage manager, to the great excitement of the audience. She has also a very nice voice, and her songs, **especially "My Heart is with you to-night, Love," created a furore.** Her duet with the Baron, "You Beautiful Doll," also showed considerable power of humour. Her frequent changes of costume added to the gaiety of the evening. —*Dispatch.*

Miss Dorothy Ward jumped into the favour of the audience at a bound. As Tommy **she gives a "boy" performance** of quite **exceptional worth, charm,** and **dash.** She **sings artistically,** using her pleasant voice with skill and sustained effect, notably so in "My Heart is with you to-night," which was encored on Saturday until the audience "got it off" and sang the swingy refrain for the delighted artiste. Miss Ward was just as successful in her racy rendering of "There's an easy, breezy way about a sailor." Fifteen bouquets were presented to Miss Dorothy Ward during the evening, not to mention a round dozen huge boxes of chocolates.—*Post.*

There is "Tommy" himself, in the person of Miss Dorothy Ward, a charming comedienne, who is certainly able to sing. Miss Dorothy Ward as the principal "boy" achieved **instant** and **general favour** with the entire house on Saturday night. An artiste with **unusual personal attractions,** she possesses also a **good voice** and a **fervent gaiety** of **manner** which **is infectious.** Her songs were invariably encored at the opening performance, and she was simply "snowed under" with bouquets and gifts of boxes of chocolates.—*Courier.*

Dorothy Ward.

conducts the augmented orchestra with ability. Mr. F. J. Richardson is general-manager for the producer. Praise is also due to the able stage-management of Mr. Henry Hawtrey, who receives good assistance from Mr. Tom Macfarlane. Miss Theresa Hayman is the ballet mistress.

"ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES" AT HASTINGS.

On Thursday last Mr. George Bowes presented at the Hastings Pier Pavilion for the first time "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," by J. E. Cowen, a really beautiful production, surpassing, perhaps, anything seen at that theatre for a long time. With the latest songs, smart and original dialogue and a host of pretty forms and faces a complete success has been achieved. Despite a storm of unusual violence, the house was nearly full, and it was pleasing to note how many youngsters were there and their wholehearted enjoyment of the performance. Not one of the old Eastern legends lends itself more readily to pantomime than the story of the needy woodcutter, his inquisitive wife, avaricious brother, and the faithful slave. The admirable scenery, by Mr. A. R. Berre, whether it is the opening at the Market of Bagdad or the gorgeous Robbers' Cave, or the Palace—there are eight scenes altogether—is designed with an artistic eye to Oriental effect. The story is more closely followed than is usually the case, all the salient points being carefully maintained. If any fault is to be found it is in the rather unnecessary length of the performance, for played as it is with admirable celerity, it lasts three and a half hours. Ganem is delightfully played by Miss Emmie King, a popular favourite here, who makes a most attractive young hero. Her acting and dancing alike are first rate, and it is always a pleasure to hear her charming voice. She gave a really striking rendering of "Take me back to the garden of love," and sung "Tipperary" with great success. Miss Jehann Dare, whose first professional appearance in pantomime we believe this to be, is a gallant Abdullah, and we have no hesitation in predicting future successes for her. Mr. Will Parkin is an all-round comedian, and extremely humorous in the character of the villain of the piece, the avaricious brother, Cassim Baba. Miss Ethel Mavis is a winsome Morgiana, and sings and dances with much grace. Mr. Percy Mavis plays Mustapha with smartness and agility much to be admired. Ali Baba finds a capital representative in Mr. Charles Towers, and he is ably seconded by Mr. Sid Vance as Cogia Baba, his principal wife. The former's song, "What's the matter with father," however, though funny, would not be much missed. Mr. Ted Freeling is a comedian already favourably known here, and his part as the policeman Sloppah gives him opportunities which he fails not to use for an excellent display of the talent for which he is deservedly popular. His business and dancing with Mr. Fred Scorey as Koppah, who also is to be highly commended, is very smart. Hassarach is well played by Mr. J. H. Howard, and Mons. Zeimer amuses the children with a capital portrayal of the intelligent donkey, Neddy. Miss Gladys Edwardes makes a pretty fairy queen, Misses Trix and Trixie are two dainty and accomplished young dancers. Les Zeimars introduce an adroit hand-balancing and staircase act. The Four Scoreys give a really first-rate pot pourri, "Hotel de la Musique," in which their versatility is well displayed. Mavis and Mavis are smart duettists and dancers, and besides, as before mentioned, sustaining important rôles; and, finally, the Five Original Roneos contribute largely to the general success with their clever novelty and electric dancing. The excellent scenery and gorgeous dresses show off to advantage the handsome and well-trained chorus. The concerted numbers, including "Alexander's rag-time band," sung by Mr. Will Parkin in excellent style, "Everybody's doing it," "Who were you with last night?" etc., are admirably rendered, and a special word of praise is due to the members of the orchestra. The whole of the performance reflects the greatest credit on all concerned, and particularly on Mr. Will Parkin, the producer, and Mr. Sydney Jukes, the musical-director.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT HULL.

Once more have the Morton management entrusted the production of their Christmas pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Hull, to the capable hands of Mr. J. F. Elliston; and again they are destined to secure a financial success, for crowded houses have been the rule since the first performance on Boxing Day. It is a pantomime that makes no great bid from the spectacular point of view, but what spectacle there is is artistically conceived and finely presented. Two fine pictures are the Butterfly Ball and the Palace set. "Red Riding Hood" does not offer the same possibilities as some of the tales of the Orient, such as "Blue Beard," "Aladdin," or processional pantomimes like "Dick Whittington," "Cinderella," and "Crusoe." Of this one it may be said that the book is very closely followed by its author, Mr. G. M. Slater, whose lines are witty.

There is abundant scope offered for the fun merchant, and some novelties. In the picture of the racing stable and the nobbling of the steed we have a clever travesty of "Flying Scud" and "The Whip" combined. The scene is ludicrously funny and makes the house peal with laughter. Another interlude that affords no end of amusement is the shop scene, a most entertaining episode. Of course, in "Red Riding Hood" we have the usual schoolroom scene and the bedroom incident.

The music embodies most of the rag-time selections, and the inevitable "Alexander's rag-time band" duly figures on the list. The dancing includes most of the newest features in the terpsichorean art, and of course includes the Gaby glide and the turkey trot.

Taking the artistes as a whole one may extend general praise. The principal boy finds a clever and vivacious representative in Miss Marie Brayman, repeating the success secured last year in South London. She has a good stage presence and a sympathetic speaking voice; she dances daintily and sings with taste. Red Riding Hood as conceived by Miss Rene Marsden is a merry and bright little personality. The Singing Fairy, Miss Dorothy Meade, has a cultivated voice of pleasing timbre. The Sisters Cairns add to the general enjoyment. Misses Ethel Haydie and Miss Mabel Costello also keep the ball rolling. Amongst the male members of the company Mr. Fred Maitland, as the Squire, takes front place; he is a comedian full of resource, and uses every opportunity that presents itself. Rowland and Ford come under the category of genuine fun-makers; they are the delight of the children. The Camerons are notable for some good singing, and Mr. Fred Lloyd is capital as the Dame. Merry and mirth-provoking Little Red Riding Hood will hold her place amongst the seventeen pantomimes that have been offered by the Morton management.

"JACK HORNER" AT LEICESTER.

During its career the Royal Opera House, Leicester, has produced many magnificent Christmas annuals, but probably "Jack Horner," which has been selected for this year's pantomime, will rank as one of the most brilliant and successful of the whole series, on which Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. J. F. Graham are to be heartily congratulated. The scenery and dresses reach a standard that has certainly never been excelled, and the whole of the company engaged are of a high level, and work throughout the whole "show" with an energy that does infinite credit to them.

The title-rôle has been entrusted to Miss Dorma Morgan, a delightfully clever and versatile artiste. She is an ideal hero, and scores a great success. Her songs, which she renders in a most fascinating manner, include "My heart is with you to-night," "Take me back to the garden of love," "My dream of the Union Jack," and "There's an easy, breezy way about a sailor," evoke unstinted applause and earn for her many encores. Miss Maidie Harrison makes a charming Princess Trixie. She is a great favourite, and her songs, "Down Daffodil Dale" and "I do like you, Susie," are rendered in a style that earns for her hearty recalls. Little Mona Cutler is a brilliant success as the Fairies' Godchild, and is a bewitching little dancer. Miss Vera Davis sings exceedingly well as the Fairy Claribel, and Miss Dorothy Vale as Patty and Miss Rita Trekelle as Discordia are excellent. The comedians work together with unflagging energy, and while they occupy the stage keep the audience in the merriest of moods. Mr. Harry Bickley is a decided success as Dame Horner, his humorous and at all times excruciatingly funny delineation of the character marking him out as a first-class comedian. Another popular mirth-provider is Jimmy Godden, who takes the part of King Sollum, provides much hilarity, and has a capital song in "Sexton Blake." Mr. Phil Phillips sings and dances well as the chocolate-coloured Pete, and among his successful songs are "Follow the footprints in the snow" and "Joshua." Mr. St. John Medley as Grab, Mr. Charles Martinette as the Cat, and Mr. Percy Lorraine as the Dog are clever acquisitions, and add not a little to the general success of the pantomime. Mr. Keith Graham is an amusing comedian and goes well with his song "Mr. Cupid." The Stella Troupe are artistic dancers, their skipping-rope dance being especially well done. Mr. J. F. Graham produced the pantomime in a manner which entitles him to the highest eulogium, and Mr. Fred Saker fulfils the duties of musical-director admirably. Mr. J. Mortimer Hancock carries out the duties of stage-manager with a precision and smartness that should ensure a record success this year. There are the usual large number of auxiliaries, and Miss H. Abrahams has trained the children admirably. The pantomime was produced at a matinée on Boxing Day and has packed the theatre at every performance since.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT NOTTINGHAM.

The tradition at the Grand, Nottingham, leads one to expect an exceedingly funny pantomime, and tradition is well maintained. In addition, staging and dressing are a distinct advance, and Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri, under whose auspices the pantomime is produced, may congratulate themselves upon an all round, first-class production. The book reveals the orthodox plot, incidents and dénouement, and is bright and witty throughout, the topical and local illusions being ingeniously and judiciously woven into the dialogue. The scenery at every change is good, the sixth scene, representing the Shores of Morocco, being especially worthy of note. Some of the scenic and stage effects are startling, and the arrival of the Brothers Kenna in an aeroplane is beautifully managed and extremely effective. Mr. A. Jennings Read is stage-manager and producer, and it is to his extreme care and steady perseverance that the effectiveness and smoothness of the staging and general working of the pantomime are due. Mr. Herbert Burton is also deserving of praise for his co-operation as assistant-stage-manager. There is a large and well-trained chorus, and the rag-time melodies and the more ambitious pieces are well performed, both by chorus and orchestra, under the able leadership of Mr. Charles Kreshover.

The Sisters Cora are principal boy and girl, Miss Lottie being Dick and Miss Florrie Alice, and their solos and duets, both vocal and dancing, are charming. Miss Dorothy Royal has a taking presence, and in her black and white silk, velvet, and feathers, creates a furore when she sings "I want to go home to Dixie." Miss Minnie Scott, a dainty soubrette, does good work, and the rag-time dancing of Miss Anna Hastings elicits much applause; whilst Miss Mona Gray, as the Fairy, is much admired. The comic interludes of Mr. Alfred Arno, as the Cat, cause endless mirth and laughter, especially amongst the children. As Alderman Fitzwarren, Billy Amstel is the right man in the right place, and he is ably assisted in laughter-making and mirth-provoking by Fred Colley, a bright and refined comedian, Harry Breece, Mount Truro, and Freddy Wolgast, the latter in his element as the Cook. The first appearance of the Kenna Brothers has been mentioned, but their daring entrance is only the prelude to a series of hair-raising feats on the trapeze. The cast is completed by Mr. Herbert Burton as King Rat. The special dancing is executed by the Lottie Stone troupe in their usual delightful manner.

The run is to continue for four weeks, and, judging by appearances, it seems doubtful whether all who are desirous of seeing "Dick" will get in during that time. Up to now the house has been crowded at every show, and Mr. Frank Seabrook, the genial manager of the Grand, must feel delighted with the good business his skill and enterprise have secured.

"JACK AND JILL" AT PLYMOUTH.

This year's pantomime, the first since the new owners (the Plymouth Properties, Ltd.), of the Theatre Royal assumed control, is certainly one of the most artistically presented, gorgeously mounted, wittily written, and cleverly portrayed productions that have delighted audiences in recent years at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, and on Boxing Day two audiences which packed the house were unanimous in their hearty approval of it. Mr. Allan Attwater, probably one of the youngest acting-managers in the country, is justifiably proud of the great success of the first pantomime produced since he attained his present position, and Mr. J. M. Glover, of Drury Lane fame, who is a director of the new company, has utilised his unrivalled experience and spared no expense in providing an entertainment of which any theatre, London or provincial, might be proud. The book is by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and the company engaged by Mr. Tom B. Davis, in conjunction with Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath. There are eleven scenes, the first of which, the Entrance to the Magic Well, serves as usual as an interesting prologue of what is to come, and after some wordy warfare between Gleam and Glum (who is a far better vocalist than most demons), then gives place to Scene II., the Baron's Cornfield, a beautifully executed piece of work. We here make the acquaintance of the various principals, and it quickly becomes obvious that the infectious vivacity of Miss Connie Emerald as Jack will soon make her one of the most popular principal boys who have patronised Plymouth, her opening song, "Paree, that's the place for me," going splendidly. Mr. Walter Dowling has also a rattling song in this act, "John Bull's budget," whilst the "Wibbly-wobbly walk," sung by Mr. Ernest French (Perks) is already the favourite whistling ditty of all the youths in the district. The third scene, the Office of the Baron's Solicitor, gives Messrs. Dowling and Bert Monks (Widow Cobble) plenty of scope of proving their value as comedians, the waltzing (?) competition originated by them being a most amusing conception. Miss Rosalind Chard, as Margery, has a fine song in this scene, "The Shepherdess of Devon," her voice being admirably suited to the song. Scene IV., the Home of Widow Cobble, affords Miss Daisy West-Collins, as Jill, an opportunity of proving her vocal powers in a pretty swing song, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," and Miss Emerald again scores with "Mr. Cupid," which is one of the best in her répertoire. Miss Evelyn Tyser is given an opportunity in this scene of demonstrating her unquestionable skill as a violinist, an innovation the popularity of which is manifest. Scene V., the Interior of the Shoe, is another pretty picture, but Scene VI., the Magic Hill, is quite a marvel of provincial stagecraft. By means of clever mechanical appliances and moving scenery a remarkable effect of Jack and Jill climbing the hill is produced, and at the summit there is a sweetly pretty snow ballet, changing in a twinkling to a summer scene, and quite as rapidly back again to winter. At the opening of this scene the Fairy (Miss Winsome Drummond) has a fine song, "Take me back to the garden of love," and ultimately the curtain falls on a delightful tableau.

Part II. opens with Scene VII., Happy Land, in which Miss Emerald and Miss West-Collins are heard to advantage in a charming little duet, "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," whilst the youngsters hugely enjoy the antics of a fine stage bull (played by Mr. Sam Leo) chasing the Widow. This scene is, from a comedy point of view, the pièce de résistance, consisting of a burlesque on the Plymouth Pageant that "did not come off," and the house fairly rocks with laughter as Messrs. Monks and Dowling successively impersonate William I., King John, Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth, Sir Francis Drake, Queen Anne, and Mr. Winston Churchill. In the following scene, the Fairy Mountains, Mr. Monks has his best vocal burlesque, "I want to sing in opera" and Mr. Dowling receives a fine encore with his breezy song, "Touch wood." Miss Evelyn Tyser is also encored for her rendering of Mr. G. R. Sims' song, "The bull-dog's bark," an inspiring patriotic song, set to music by Mr. Glover, during the course of which a fine Dreadnought makes her appearance in the background manned by juveniles. Scene IX., the Rival Wells, delights the younger element with some by-play between the Baron and the Bear (Mr. Sam Leo), and Mr. Frederic le Maitre as the Demon beautifully renders Gounod's "Vulcan song." Scene X., a Frontier Railway Station, affords opportunity to the Creo Brothers to display their marvellous ability as acrobats, and the curtain finally falls on Scene XI., the Palace of Jewels, the predominating features of which are bevies of young ladies dressed to represent various jewels with appropriate electrical fittings, the scene making a fitting climax to a splendid show. We are pleased to record that the packed houses which heralded the opening performance are being regularly maintained.

"ALADDIN" AT YARMOUTH.

Mr. Walter Nightingale, the proprietor of the Royal Aquarium at Great Yarmouth, has, with the assistance of Mr. Fred Carpenter, presented "Aladdin" as the Christmas pantomime, and the initial performance of a ten days' engagement took place on Thursday afternoon, the 26th ult. The panto., which is produced by Mr. Arthur Wingrave, is a great success spectacularly, while the stage business is good, the artistes including Amy Height, Will Owen, Ward and Scott, and Madge White, who do some excellent turns. Singing and dancing are also very attractive, and the pantomime should have a successful run.

Provincial Pantomimes continued on Page 28.

Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," is meeting with great success everywhere, and more particularly just now at the Lyceum, Govan. The comedy business worked up by Mr. Peter Bermingham and Miss Retta Halket is exceedingly smart and clever, and this dainty young lady has been heartily congratulated on all sides for her acting, singing, and dancing in this production.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

"WONDERFUL GRANDMAMA."

A Play for Children, by Harold Chapin, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Thursday, Dec. 26.

Buddy .....Mr. Harold French
Sissy .....Miss Joyce Robey
Goodfellow .....Miss Molly Shiells
Peggy .....Mr. Tom Kilfoy
Will Patch .....Mr. Brember Wills
Daddy Kidlet .....Mr. Bernard Copping
Mummy Kidlet .....Miss Marie Royter
Captain Scarabang .....Mr. Jules Shaw
Clown .....Mr. Alec Payne
Old Joey the Pantaloon ..Mr. Francis Hope
The Old Lady in the Flowered Gown
Miss Ellinor Arup
The Toll-gate Man
Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson
Bodger .....Mr. H. F. Maltby
Grandmama .....Miss Hilda Sims
Ring Master .....Mr. Alfred Hilliard
First Watchman .....Mr. Ernest Haines
Second Watchman .....Mr. George Blythe
Third Watchman .....Mr. Charles Courtney
Fourth Watchman .....Mr. Paul Hansell
Host .....Mr. James Dillon
First Waiter .....Mr. Leonard Chapman
Second Waiter .....Mr. Norman E. Laughton
First Minion .....Mr. James Dillon
Second Minion .....Mr. Raymond Conway
Third Minion .....Mr. Henri Gisbourne
Fourth Minion ....Mr. Norman E. Laughton

If there is a pitfall to be avoided by the playwright who undertakes to write something that shall please the children, it is that the essential element of fancy is apt to over-run itself into complexities of plot and difficulties of meaning which the childish intelligence is quite unable to see through. In other words, the playwright has a direct call to simplicity. It is to be feared that Mr. Harold Chapin's play, "Wonderful Grandmama," errs rather seriously on the other side, for it contains such a profusion of fanciful implications that it presents something of a puzzle for grown-ups. One may take for granted, however, that much of this trimming—complimentary in itself to the imagination of the author—will be cut away, with the usual readjustment of the primary interests, so that no doubt shall remain of the why and wherefore as a whole, and no obscurities be suffered during the progress of the action.

To attempt a résumé of the plot as it was unfolded at the initial matinée on the 26th would be to enter into a story of uncertainties and confusion. A condensed idea will better serve the present purpose. The central figures are Buddy and Sissy, the children of circus performers. Daddy and Mummy Kidlet. They learn that their mother had run away from home to join the circus, while still a child herself, and had returned home to find that her own mother—wonderful grandmama—had mysteriously disappeared. Their curiosity leads them to join in an attempt to discover the whereabouts of this old lady with the white hair and the black stick, and a series of adventures ensue, in which a variety of characters take part. There is Will Patch, the old Harlequin, Old Joey the Pantaloon, Captain Scarabang (of the Horse Marines, once a member of the circus troupe); Goodfellow, the boy over the wall, who has a grudge against Grandmama because she had invented a light which was not to the interest of his mother, Twilight; and others who take part, with more or less quaint effect, in their order. The journey (by cinematograph) is made in darkness, during which the voices of the performers can be heard, but nothing of them seen; there is also a dungeon scene later on, which is equally disliked by the audience for its impenetrable gloom. The search party are thrown into this dungeon by Captain Scarabang, who has learned that the discovery of Wonderful Grandmama means that he will be turned out of the castle in which he lives, and of which the old lady is the rightful owner. Scarabang's endeavours to maintain the upper hand are, however, frustrated by means of the magic bat of Harlequin, and the sequel includes the release of the old lady from durance vile, the happy reunion of parents and children, the joining of Harlequin and his long-lost Columbine, and an appropriate rejuvenation of the circus quartet, who have been suffering from age and disabilities up to now.

There is a real horse, upon which Mummy Kidlet rides in search of her children, but this has only the interest of contrast with the old circus steed, Peggy, which is a member of the search party, and which, in the person of Tom Kilfoy, is the source of considerable fun. Harold French plays with piquant cleverness as Buddy, and is charmingly accompanied by Joyce Robey as Sissy; Molly Shiells as Goodfellow shows commendable ability and restraint; a capital Mummy Kidlet is seen in Marie Royter: Hilda Sims figures briefly but effectively as the wonderful grandmama; and Frank Forbes-Robertson as the Toll-gate Man is quaintly interesting. Of notable value in the cast is Jules Shaw, who, as Captain Scarabang, is either friendly or terrible, according to whether he wears a removable prominent nose or not; and the circus trio, Clown, Pantaloon, and Harlequin, are capitally portrayed by Alec Payne, Francis Hope, and Brember Wills. The subsidiary parts are acceptably well played. Six scenes are employed, which have been designed and painted, with very pleasing effect, by Mr. Hugh Freemantle; Miss Muriel Pratt has designed the dresses: and the production is to the credit of Mr. Lewis Casson.

"THE RIVALS."

Revival of Sheridan's Comedy at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Dec. 23, 1912.

Fag .....Mr. Frank Darch
Thomas .....Mr. Ernest Haines
Lydia Languish .....Miss Christie Laws
Lucy .....Miss Muriel Pratt
Julia .....Miss Sybil Thorndike
Mrs. Malaprop .....Miss Isabel Beresford
Sir Anthony Absolute ....Mr. Edward Landor
Captain Absolute .....Mr. Milton Rosmer
Faulkland .....Mr. Leonard Mudie
Acres .....Mr. Percy Foster
Boy .....Mr. Leonard Chapman
Sir Lucius O'Trigger .....Mr. Ernest Bodkin
David .....Mr. Lionel Briggs
Maid to Julia .....Miss Doris Bateman
Servant to Mrs. Malaprop ..Mr. Paul Hansell
Servant to Faulkland .....Mr. George Blythe

No matter what kind of production is undertaken by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, their success is invariably of a quality to put aside any misgivings as to the adaptability of their peculiarly modern style to costume or classic drama of the older kind. The latest example is "The Rivals," produced on Dec. 23 for an assured run of several weeks, during which it is not likely there will be any lack of patronage. Like most revivals, this play has undergone rearrangement. From the original five acts it is reduced to four, involving a redisposition of the scenes, and a consequent effect of condensation and fulness. The performance went with extraordinary smoothness, and the brightness and humour of the comedy was fully enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic audience.

The casting of the play has been done with commendable discretion, and it was a peculiarly happy judgment which relegated the rôle of Mrs. Malaprop to Miss Isabel Beresford. Her appreciation of the humour of Mrs. Malaprop's verbal errors was in quite the right pungent, though apparently unconscious, spirit, and her passages with various characters of the play were consistently and smartly done, and a source of real amusement. Equally well placed was Mr. Edward Landor as Sir Anthony Absolute, in which his rich vein of comedy characterisation was admirably exploited. If a selection might be made among a company so evenly suited these two should be named as sharing the prime honours of the evening. Next to them in interest came the Lydia Languish of Miss Christie Laws, a charming embodiment in respect of personality, and concerned throughout with her love affair in the true style of Sheridan comedy, while as Captain Absolute Mr. Milton Rosmer, though normally better suited by intellectual and emotional drama than the crises of a comedy of manners, played up to the situation at every point with a smooth and accomplished sureness of purpose. Another who is notably well cast is Mr. Percy Foster as Bob Acres, rival of the mock Beverley, full of pretensions and quaint oaths, and continuously entertaining. Miss Sybil Thorndike as Julia added an engaging impersonation in her usual cultured and intelligent style; Mr. Leonard Mudie gave quite the proper air and tone to the character of Faulkland; and Miss Muriel Pratt well sustained the business and the interest of Lucy in affairs; while among the others, all of whom played with commendable ease and finish, a conspicuously convincing impersonation of the Irish baronet, Sir Lucius O'Trigger, was given by Mr. Ernest Bodkin.

The general staging of the play was excellent. Mr. Hugh Freemantle is responsible for the designing and painting of the scenery, and the total credit of the production is due to Mr. George R. Foss.

THE NEW THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

After tremendous efforts to keep faith with its undertaking to open on Boxing Day, the New Theatre, Quay-street, Manchester, duly threw open its doors to the public for a matinée performance of "Kismet." The occasion, however, can scarcely be said to have been a happy one, for the arrangements were by no means perfect for either the audience or the players. The performance was timed to begin at two o'clock, but the vocal prelude was not heard until nearly half-past three. Meanwhile an accident to the drop-curtain had necessitated the use of a narrow cloth, which revealed the rafters of the stage; and much hammering of scenery and effects was going on within sight and hearing of the audience. Nevertheless, the delay was for a long time acceptable to the hundreds who still mobbed the huge foyer in the patient expectation of having their invitation cards exchanged, at the tiny box-office window, for numbered seats which did not exist. These cards had apparently been sent out without discrimination, with the result that aldermen of the city, gentlemen of the Press, and members of the general public, found themselves in the end herded in unsuitable galleries or odd corners, and generally out of place, very much to their astonishment and discomfort. It says much for the goodwill of the audience toward the establishment of this handsome and spacious theatre that these drawbacks were tolerated with a patience that drew from Mr. Arthur Hardy, the general-manager, a thankful and complimentary appreciation; and fortunately, when the play began, the performance was so good, in spite of the stage obstructions, that the audience was satisfied to settle down to such enjoyment of the afternoon as was apparently in store for it.

The play had to be clipped a little here and there, and even so it lasted so long that the end of the second act saw the house beginning to disperse. But there can be no doubt that, in the central figure of Hajj, the cast has in Mr. Hubert Carter an exponent strong enough to bring out fully the singular characteristics of this adventurous beggar of the Arabian Nights, and that the main element of the success of the production is on this virile actor's shoulders. His excellence is like that of the original. Mr. Oscar Asche—an excellence of personality as well as of skill. The dignity and lover-like attributes of the Caliph Abdullah were well presented by Mr. George R. Montford. Miss Georgina Milne, the talented and engaging young actress so well known to London playgoers, and who recently achieved considerable success as one of the three principals in "The Amazons" at the Duke of York's Theatre, completely captivated Manchester playgoers by her very clever and charming characterisation in the part of Marsinah—rendered so famous by Miss Lily Brayton at the Garrick Theatre. Miss Milne's deserved success was as remarkable as it was pronounced. The fortunes of this trio, beset by the sinister Wazir Mansur of Mr. Frederick Annerley, were followed with wondering interest, which was kept alive by the novelty of the setting, the imaginative suggestiveness of the many and varied incidental characters, and what seemed like the veritable Oriental atmosphere of a thousand-and-one years ago coming across the footlights.

The theatre itself is unfinished, but is decorated, so far, in white and gold, with crimson upholstery. It has two tiers of boxes on either side, and the circles are so arranged that a sight of the stage may be had from every corner. The seating capacity is 4,000, which will probably be freely utilised during the five weeks' run of "Kismet."

The "Marsinah" waltz, published by the enterprising Star Music Publishing Company, of London, is played by a capable orchestra at each performance of "Kismet," and the waltz has quickly proved highly popular.

"FIFINELLA."

A Fairy Frolic, in Three Acts, Produced by Basil Dean, at the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, Thursday, Dec. 26.

Uncle Thaddeus .....Mr. Scott Sunderland
Mary .....Miss Esme Hersee
Olly .....Master Roy Royston
Demon King .....Mr. Wilfred Shine
Fairy Queen .....Miss Aida Jenoure
Utter and Rot
Messrs. J. H. Roberts and Richd. Evans
An Owl .....Mr. Eric Blore
Fifinella .....Miss Dorothy Bowett
East Wind .....Mr. Robert Crichton
Litterkin .....Miss Estelle Winwood
Bitterkin .....Miss Eileen Thorndike
Elf King .....Mr. Lawrence Hanray
Dream Merchant .....Mr. Baliol Holloway
Man in the Moon ....Mr. Percival Madgewick
Abdul .....Mr. Richard Evans

This is a very happy conception, and all who have been concerned in its production are deserving of the highest praise. The "frolic" is admirably written, full of good things, and presented with most commendable taste and finish. There is a whimsicality about "Fifinella" which will appeal to young and old alike, and in that respect alone it differs from the fairy fantasies which are primarily intended for the little ones.

The introduction is entirely novel. On the rise of the curtain we are confronted with the customary figures of pantomime—demons, fairy queen, comedians, and such like, all of which, to the youthful mind, are entirely out of keeping with a "fairy frolic." Soon the audience, who are not "in the know," have their attention interrupted by an apparently rude boy seated in the stalls, who, in plain language, expresses his disappointment with the whole show. He is rebuked by a gentleman seated beside him, but persists in his interruptions, and, suddenly leaving his seat, dashes upon the stage to point out that such worn-out things as comedians, demons, etc., should have no place in a children's entertainment. He is followed by his sister and the uncle. These are Olly, Mary, and Thaddeus, who, of course, are numbered among the players, and, whilst the truth is dawning upon the audience, the stage is thrown into darkness. On the lights going up the objectionable characters have disappeared, and the fairies start work in real earnest by carrying off to their own country Olly, Mary, and the uncle.

Here the Elf King holds a court to decide what punishment shall be meted out to the "pantomime impostors," and sends for his daughter, Fifinella, to pronounce judgment, especially on the alleged Fairy Queen, who has assumed the real fairy's title. But, unfortunately, Fifinella, who was Queen of the Summer Fairies, and should have been asleep, guarded at Christmastime by the winter fairies, has been carried off by the East Wind during the absence of the winter immortals at the pantomime. The King, in his wrath, thereupon condemns the winter fairies, as a punishment for their neglect, to listen to a continual performance by the "pantomime impostors" until Olly, Mary, and the uncle find Fifinella—an awful penalty. The search lasts forty-nine years, during which period the three adventurers visit strange places and see many beautiful things beloved of children. The Man in the Moon takes them in hand, and leads them to the Dream Merchant's house in the city, "East of the Sunrise." Here they are shown Fifinella in a dream, which they break and so capture her. She is then taken back to the Elf King, and so the frolic ends, the whole of which has been pure imagination, for the "pantomime impostors" are found in their places again as when the boy from the audience interrupted them.

Such, in short, is the idea of "Fifinella," and Messrs. Barry Jackson and Basil Dean (general-manager of the Repertory Theatre) richly deserve the highest praise for their pretty invention. The music by Mr. Norman Hayes, composer of "Katawampus," is brilliant, and eminently suited to the incidents in the story. Mr. George W. Harris, the theatre scenic artist, has done well in the matter of costumes and scenery, the whole design being marked by simplicity quite in keeping with the spirit of the "frolic." The Dream Merchant's House, with its Eastern setting, is an admirable piece of work; as is also the Top of the Hill We All Know, while the sky effects and drifting clouds attest the artist's powers with the brush. The dancing throughout is graceful and neat, and the "pantomime impostors," Messrs. Shine, Roberts, and Evans, and Miss Jenoure, are particularly humorous. They are all members of the Repertory company, and showed remarkable versatility. Olly, Mary, and Uncle Thaddeus earned general favour for their natural acting. Mr. Holloway was a sombre and dignified Dream Merchant; as the Elf King, Mr. Hanray displayed much dramatic force; the Owl was naturally impersonated by Mr.

MISS FRANCES WEIR,

who is now in London, is a young and talented American lady. She is pianist, singer, and composer, and in each of these rôles has gained considerable distinction in the United States. Her best-known songs are "Where roses fade" and "A year ago," published in this country by Elkin and Co. She was a pupil of the late Ed. MacDowell, whose early death was so much lamented in American musical circles.

Blore; Miss Bowett charmed everybody with her Fifinella; and the remainder of the cast filled their allotted tasks to the fullest satisfaction. A special word of thanks is due to Miss Conti, who trained the children. At the close Mr. Dean and the principal artistes were called before the curtain.

There are some sixty persons engaged in "Fifinella," which should have a long run.

"A LITTLE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE."

Play, by Miss Hamilton-Moore, Produced for the First Time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, Dec. 26, 1912.

Bridget Cassidy .....Miss Helen Moloney
Daniel Byrne .....Mr. Philip Guiry
Michael O'Halloran .....Mr. Patrick Murphy
Larry Sullivan .....Mr. Michael Conniffe
The Captain .....Mr. Farrell Pelly
The Strange Woman .....Miss Nell Byrne

The curtain rises on the interior of a lone cottage on the western coast of Ireland. It is a wild Christmas Eve, outside a storm rages, and the waves lash in fury the weather-beaten coast. Bridget Cassidy sits brooding over a turf fire when suddenly the boom of guns is heard through the wild night. Again and again the weird sound is borne above the storm. It is a ship in distress. Michael O'Halloran and Larry Sullivan enter, and place a lighted lamp in the window with the intention of luring the distressed vessel to her doom. Bridget Cassidy, with a woman's softheartedness, tries her best to dissuade the two men from their nefarious design, but hope of gain is too strongly engraved on their hearts, and her efforts are in vain. At length Daniel Byrne, an old and respected fisherman, enters, and Bridget Cassidy invokes his assistance; he is adamant and refuses. In a fine elocutionary effort he tells of the last shipwreck on this coast, when he, at a great risk of his life, saved one of the French officers on the vessel, nursed him back to life, and kept him for months until he was able to return to his own country. The thanks he got from this man was the abduction of his only daughter, of whom he had never since heard. While he rambles on piercing cries are heard without as the vessel is broken to pieces on the rocks. O'Halloran and Sullivan enter carrying between them the unconscious form of a man dressed in a foreign uniform. Remedies are applied, and he at last revives. He tells of his fateful voyage and some of his past life, which causes Daniel Byrne, sitting in the gloom, to raise his head and listen. At length he tells his name, and with a wild rush Byrne has him by the throat; the man he has sought for years has returned, the man who ruined his life has by a miracle been placed at last in his power. The captain tells his pitiful tale—the girl's death, and his own perfidy. Byrne, almost distraught, is about to strangle him, when lo! the door opens. A young girl enters out of the wild night and begs shelter for herself and child. She admonishes them for quarreling on such a holy, holy night—the night on which Our Lord came into the world. As she talks twelve o'clock strikes; they fall on their knees, and the curtain descends as the Strange Woman puts her baby into a rough manger and sings it to sleep.

The play is reminiscent of the symbolism of Yeats and the weirdness of Synge. With such models imitation is somewhat a difficult matter, and Miss Moore, if she has not reached the standard of the writers named, is certainly to be congratulated on a play that "grips" from start to finish. A better performance could not be desired. Mr. Philip Guiry as Daniel Byrne showed excellent acting ability, and his description of his daughter's ruin was an elocutionary effort of which any actor might feel proud. Mr. Farrell Pelly was thoroughly convincing as the rescued Captain, whilst Miss Helen Moloney gave a fine character study of a western "colleen" as the Strange Woman. Miss Nell Byrne was very successful; her quiet manner and sweetly sympathetic voice created an atmosphere of sanctity which left no doubt as to the sacredness of the character she was supposed to represent. The play had a fine reception, and should be a welcome addition to the Abbey répertoire.

"AN ANGEL OF GRIEF."

A Dramatic Episode of the Peninsular War, in One Act, by Lady Katherine Milnes Gaskell, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, on Saturday, Dec. 28, 1912.

Suzanne de Saumarez .....Miss Eva Stuart
Jeanne .....Miss Florence Harcourt
Charlie Corbet .....Mr. Harold Neville

"An Angel of Grief" is an exquisite little play, and its simple pathos goes straight home. The scene is a French chateau, where Suzanne de Saumarez, daughter of an officer in Napoleon's Army, with her old nurse, awaits the latest news from the front. The elder woman talks confidently of the ultimate victory of the French, but Suzanne is weary of the horrors of war, which may at any moment snatch her father or lover from her. Jeanne retires, and shortly after a sound of firing is heard, followed by the hasty entrance of a soldier, wounded and dishevelled. Hurriedly he confesses that, though wearing the French uniform, he is an Englishman and a spy. Escaping the sentry, he has shot a French officer who challenged him. Compassion triumphs over patriotism, and Suzanne binds up his wound and hides him in the adjoining salon until she can effect his escape. Jeanne returns with terrible news, which she endeavours to break gently; but the horror-stricken girl soon divines that it is her own lover who has fallen by the hand of the man she is sheltering. Fiercely she despatches Jeanne for men to search the house, asserting her conviction that the miscreant is close at hand. Corbet, in the next room, has overheard everything and now enters. Suzanne tells him that though her life is wrecked vengeance is still left, and she will have the satisfaction of seeing him shot at daybreak, and any further appeal is useless. But Corbet's reply is that an English officer does not beg his life at an enemy's hands. He is prepared to die for his country, with the love of an English girl enshrined in his heart, his only request being that Suzanne will take the portrait of his sweetheart and send it to her, telling how he died, and he asks her (Suzanne) to remember that, though her lover fell by his hand, it was in fair fight as man to man. The lovely pictured face makes its own appeal, and Suzanne returns the miniature, brokenly telling Corbet his life is safe from her. She gives him the password, and he escapes in the gathering dusk.

Miss Eva Stuart was exceedingly effective as Suzanne de Saumarez, and her acting at the conclusion of the piece was marked by intense pathos. Mr. Harold Neville played with quiet dignity as Charlie Corbet, Jeanne being satisfactorily presented by Miss Florence Harcourt.

"GIPSY LOVE" ON TOUR.

Mr. George Edwardes' South Company, in "Gipsy Love," started their tour at Bath on Boxing Day, and this bright musical comedy has since been drawing crowded and delighted audiences at both the matinées and evening performances. The cast is a particularly powerful one, and includes that excellent comedian Mr. Lionel Victor, who, as Dragotin, added another genuine hit to his already long list of similar parts in the Daly's productions of yore. Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne makes an ideal gipsy, Jozsi, his excellent baritone voice finding full scope for display in the many solos, duets and concerted numbers that fall to his lot, while his acting is equally good. Miss Blanche Tomlin as Ilona makes a marked impression by her winning impersonation, and her brilliant soprano voice is an absolute joy to listen to. Miss Mary Ridley is well endowed both in presence and vocal ability to portray the character of Lady Babby. Miss Connie St. Clair is full of vivacity as Kajetin, and her duets and dances with Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., as the shy Kajetan are always warmly applauded. Mr. Norman Greene is lifelike as the innkeeper, and he is encored nightly for his song in the second act "Love and wine." Mr. Arthur Brooke as Jonel is delightfully humorous in his scene with Mr. Victor in the first act. The dances introduced by Mlle. Kosza and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton (who is also stage-manager) are executed with abandon and grace. The chorus and band, under Mr. Howard Carr's direction, add largely to the pleasure of the performance. Mr. Purdy is the manager for the tour. At the close of the performance on New Year's Eve the company joined hands with the audience round the circle and sang "Auld lang syne," an innovation that Mr. George Edwardes' company started a year ago and which is a very popular idea.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN" AT ABERAVON.

This latest of Mr. Fred. Melville's stirring romantic dramas was produced for the first time in the provinces at the Grand Theatre, Aberavon, last week by Miss Inez Howard's company, under the able direction of Mr. Henry Chattell. The play teems with exciting incidents throughout, and is excellently interpreted. As Paul Mr. Chas. A. Baker submitted a fine study of a rather difficult character. His scene with the King was particularly good. Miss Margaret Savill gave another demonstration of her histrionic powers as Liane, "the Woman," which part she enacted with great charm. By her spirited acting Liane is made a living personality of strong character yet sweet disposition. A part which also deserves particular mention is the King, played by Mr. Edward Warden, who presents an excellent study of the nervous and dissolute ruler. Mr. Alec Alexander gives a good performance of the villainous Henri de Montrale. Mr. Alec Finlayson made a capital Captain Armande, and as John, one of the monks, Mr. H. Victor Smith also did very well, Mr. Geo. Hall making a dignified Father Ignatius. The fun was well supplied by Messrs. Walter H. Terriss and Ernest A. Waller, the former as the jovial monk, and the latter as the lugubrious, sneaking Brother Jabez. Miss Grace Stafford as Mme. de Vigne, Miss Daisy Cryer as the designing Comtesse de Salle, and Miss Nellie C. Bilbe as Vernet were all consistently good. Others who made up a strong cast included Messrs. Cecil Lloyd, T. G. Hellwell, E. T. Kent, F. L. English, M. Raby, H. Decker, H. Hayward, F. St. John, Geo. Endell, S. Forrest, and Miss Dolly Minster. The play was staged, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, by Mr. Edward Warden, and the success reflected the greatest credit on all concerned. Crowded houses were the rule for the four nights the play was in the town. The business-manager for the company is Mr. Claude Aymond. The costumes and scenery, by Mme. Jeannette and Messrs. Jas. O'Rourke and Chas. Sayer respectively, were excellent.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.

After having been closed for nearly eighteen months, this one-time popular place of entertainment could hardly be recognised by old frequenters when it was reopened on Monday night. Since Mr. Hare purchased the property several months ago he has had it remodelled, and so successful has he been in this that the house can now be ranked with the best provincial theatres as regards comfort and appointments. Provost Husband, in the presence of a good audience, in declaring the theatre open and introducing Mr. Hare, wished him the success he deserved. The Williams' eighth annual pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," was then presented. Of the Immortals, Miss Elaine Cliff as Fairy Starlight fills the rôle attractively, and Mr. P. S. Gilbert as Herne the Hunter is equally successful. Of the Mortals, Miss Louie Edmonds as Robin Hood has all the necessary dash of the principal boy. As Maid Marion Miss Dorothy La Race is full of sweetness and fascination. Sol and Joel as the Robbers put in some excellent work. Messrs. Tom Reid and Jack McKinley as Ferret and Weasel prove themselves good comedians. Mr. G. Hyland makes a bright and merry Helen McMutchkin. The Baron and Baroness Stoneybroke are well placed in the hands of Mr. Bob Stephenson and Miss Daisy Clifford; and Little Alec and Wee Peggy make pleasing Babes. Specialities are provided by Sol and Joel in a funny Hebrew patter and acrobatic act, the Sunshine Troupe of dancers, Miss Beanie Galletly, and Miss Louie Edmond's company of ten pretty girls in the musical scena, "Frolics in Japan." The chorus, scenery and dresses are excellent.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.

The Aston Theatre Royal, during the past four months, has undergone entire reconstruction. The work was commenced on August 26, since when many improvements have been introduced, from plans prepared by Mr. C. H. Collett, architect, under the supervision of Mr. A. H. Rose, and the manager, Mr. L. Chapman. The alterations cost about £7,000. The theatre will now accommodate 2,000 people. The frontage has been extended 15 feet, and inside a new and up-to-date set of fire appliances has been installed. The new electrical installation lends considerable attraction and brilliance to a well-decorated interior, whilst with the new fire-proof curtain which has been constructed, and the modern description of fire appliances, the public have been safeguarded in every possible way. There are eleven separate exits from the theatre, enabling the manager to clear the house in all parts comfortably within about two minutes. Everybody occupying a seat will now be provided with a distinct view of the stage, inasmuch as the floor has been raised to a considerable incline. In addition to this, a peculiar feature of the construction lies in the fact that there is not a single column in the sight line of the audience in any part of the building, the galleries having been carried out on the cantilever system. The heating apparatus has also been brought up-to-date. The old theatre was absolutely dangerous, and the greater portion of the seats had an obstructed view of the stage. This has all been obviated in the manner described, and as regards the exits, there are five on the ground floor and three each in the circle and gallery. The circle is said to be one of the largest in the city, and seats nearly 600 people. The decorative work is exceedingly artistic, and has been carried out with fireproof material. In the dressing-rooms, which are some of the finest we have seen, heating apparatus has been installed, and each is fitted with hot and cold water, together with the sprinkler apparatus in case of fire. The majority of the dressing-rooms are situated on the ground floor, with separate exits to each, and every one has electric light and gas. On the first floor is a commodious chorus room, in which fifty performers can be comfortably accommodated, and this, too, is well equipped.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey has been giving a representative of the "Bucks and Wilts Chronicle" the history of his adoption of the stage as a profession. "My father was a clergyman," he explained. "Indeed, all my family on one side belonged to the Church; on the other, they belonged to the Army. I was intended for the Army, but several of my relations, who had already embraced a military career, said to my father, 'For goodness' sake, don't make a soldier of Charles. It is the worst paid profession going.' Then it was suggested that I should enter the law, and I was about to be articled to Mr. Benjamin Lake, a London solicitor, who attained considerable notoriety afterwards. But I did not like it, and when I went to see him and it was suggested I should start that very day, I looked at the bright sun shining through the trees on Lincoln's Inn Fields and determined to defer it. So I drove to Waterloo as hard as I could, went to Ascot, and won £200."

"That deferred my inauguration into the law," added Mr. Hawtrey, with a smile. "Then it was decided I should go to Oxford, and I spent two terms there, anxious to put off my entry into the law. I may say I had passed my preliminary examinations. Eventually my father agreed to my wish that I should go on the stage, and the Bancrofts, with whom we were friendly, helped on the ambition. I was placed under Mr. E. Bruce, and made my first appearance in 'The Colonel.'"

The newly organised Stage Society of New York recently gave a midnight performance at the local Lyceum Theatre. It is forbidden to perform plays in costume on Sunday, although vaudeville entertainments are freely permitted, so the Lyceum Theatre was not opened until 12.15. a.m. A number of policemen stood outside, but were powerless to interfere. Three one-act plays were presented.

Miss Elizabeth Baker's play, "Chains," which was so successful at the Duke of York's, was recently performed at the Criterion Theatre, New York, at a special matinée. The original version has been "Americanised" by Porter Emerson Browne, who has been criticised for using capitals for his own name and small type for that of the original author. One paper remarks:—"This would seem to indicate that modesty is not always the most marked characteristic of our playwrights. It is true that Mr. Porter Emerson Browne has changed the locale, the currency, the names of some of the characters, and, possibly, no small amount of the dialogue. The slang phrases, much too abundant, but occasionally very funny, are undoubtedly his. But, title and story, 'Chains' is the play which gained its unknown author some fame, first because it is an exceedingly clever, though by now somewhat familiar, recital of prosaic life, and, secondly, because she was herself a working woman entirely familiar with the economic conditions discussed. Wherefore, the attempted stealing of her thunder seems a particularly ungracious thing."

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

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SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 30, the Drama, entitled
"THE LANCASHIRE LAD."

This well written drama received a very favourable reception on its performance on Monday last. It was played in a most capable manner by the popular stock company engaged. Mr. Frank R. Robertson presented a fine study of the Lancashire Lad, David Elmore, and obtained the plaudits of the audience for his clever work. Mr. Walter Thornton deserves warm praise for his interpretation of Max Carton. Jim Wincote was satisfactorily represented by Mr. Roy Lorraine. Jack Denton gave an amusing performance of John Willie Wardle, and Mr. Fred Hunter greatly assisted in evoking hilarity as Tum-o'-the-Swill-tub, these two artistes keeping the audience in a continual ripple of laughter whenever they were on the stage. Miss Daisy Maynard gave an excellent and very amusing study of the Lancashire mill girl, Jane Alice Clitheroe, maintaining the dialect throughout. Mr. Percy Emery was admirable as Professor Napoleon Boulanger. Mr. Fred Withers represented the bully, Burly Bill, to the life. Mr. George Fredericks was natural as Inspector Fairclough. Jessie Wincote was sympathetically played by Miss Ida Chapman. Miss Millie Phillips acted Lorna Wardle well; and Miss Guinevere Shelton ably performed Mother Wardle. Three variety artistes were gracefully represented by Miss Cissie Clarke as Kitty de Vere, Miss Nellie Coombes as Florrie Mayfair, and Miss Elsie Brash as Trixie Golighty. The drama was mounted and staged in the usual complete manner and produced by Mr. H. G. Brandon. Mr. Geo. Stone is kept very busy attending to the comfort of his numerous patrons.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Dec. 30, the Drama, entitled
"WHITE AS A LILY."

This, the latest of Mr. Chas. Darrell's plays, produced recently at the Elephant Theatre, has proved a huge success here. Mr. Geo. Belmore gives a thorough and convincing interpretation of the young K.C., Lord Aubrey Mount-Arliston; and the rendering by Miss Dorothy White of Eireen Beauclaire is highly praiseworthy. Mr. A. B. Lyons submits a capital character study of the Punch and Judy proprietor, Tom Puttiker; other character parts are the children, Bobbie and Susie, cleverly enacted by Doris Nowland and Trixie Gem; villainy, which calls forth howls and execrations from the "gods" and "pittites," is practised by Gordon Canterville and Leah Van Zalma, and both rôles are realistically portrayed by Mr. Edward Avinal and Miss Stella Carmichael respectively. Miss Evelyn Vaudray is exceedingly well placed as the Dowager Lady Mount-Arliston, a selfish, haughty aristocrat; comedy of the lighter vein is agreeably supplied by Miss Winnie Webster and Mr. Wal E. Kirby as Judy Puttiker and the Hon. Dicky Birchenough. The scenery is excellent, the Avalanche being a smart piece of stage craft. Mr. Frank Eden is the courteous general-manager for Mr. Chas. Barnard, whose company interpret the play.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Dec. 30, the Pantomime, entitled
"SINBAD THE SAILOR."

A great attraction indeed is Mr. Joe Collins' "Sinbad the Sailor." The scenery is really elaborate and the dresses are gorgeous. The Eastern Palace set in the final scene cannot be praised too highly. The chorus is efficiently represented by a particularly charming and well-trained bevy of beauty. The principal dancers are the Collins Troupe, who earn golden opinions from a crowded house. Mr. Jack Raynor as the Old Man of the Sea contributes several eccentric dances with great effect. This gentleman has the customary number of limbs, but he involves them in such a complicated series of evolutions that one is tempted to believe he has a few spare legs secreted about him somewhere. Miss Addie Lennard is the principal boy, and puts all possible go into the part of Sinbad. She richly merited the loudly expressed appreciation of the audience. Miss Ethel Callanan as Sadie makes a charming principal girl, and sings delightfully. Miss Harriett Ware and Miss Dorothy Payne as second boy and girl respectively make the most of their parts, and give the greatest satisfaction. Miss Queenie West as Fairy Queen leaves nothing to be desired. The important rôle of Hinbad is entrusted to Mr. Harold Baker, who has a really fine voice, and does not miss a point throughout. He is very ably supported by the Captain (Mr. Geo. Hillard), Mrs. Sinbad (Mr. Will Sullivan), and Bo'sun Bill (Mr. Bert High). The antics and clever foolery of these gentlemen keep the house in an almost continual roar. A largely augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Alfred Pratt. The pantomime was produced by the stage-manager, Mr. Jack Neilson, to whom the greatest credit is due. Mr. Bert Goodwin is his assistant, and shares his arduous and successful labours. The scenery is by Geo. Wayne and Co., and the whole is produced under the direction of Mr. Joe Collias.

"ALADDIN" AT THE WEST LONDON.

Following the prevalent practice of twice-nightly pantomimes, Mr. Frank Hardie produced on Boxing Day last "Aladdin" for the seasonable amusement of the West Londoners. Keeping all the salient points of this favourite pantomime story well to the fore, with many pretty concerted numbers, and some clever dances, Mr. Hardie certainly succeeded in staging a very effective show.

As Aladdin, Miss Victoria Carlton has plenty of go and dash, which, coupled with a bright personality and a pleasing voice, quickly makes her a favourite with all. Miss Violet Goodman daintily impersonates Princess Badroulbadour; and Miss Ruby Goodman plays Prince Pekoe with a dash and verve that is most exhilarating. This bright little artiste also sings delightfully.

Of the comedians, Mr. Teddy Kiplin supplies plenty of fun, with his quaint impersonation of Widow Twankey; Mr. Herbert Darsie makes scheming Abanazar a particularly wicked uncle, and works hard to please everybody; Mr. Ernie Williams is admirable as the Grand Vizier, speaking and singing well; Mr. Arthur Clarke is duly imposing as the Emperor; and Mr. Leslie Ross creates roars of laughter with his weird portrayal of Kasserac.

Miss Doris Hermaine and Miss Winnie Bell are quite satisfactory as the Slave of the Lamp and Spirit of the Ring respectively, whilst in the Cave scene Miss Lily Mori executes a graceful solo dance. The augmented band, under the direction of Mr. E. Morris, adds considerably to the evening's enjoyment, and the resident manager, Mr. A. Ashcroft, keeps a watchful eye on the front of the house.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Dec. 30, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

This week Mr. George Edwardes's company is paying a welcome return visit with the ever-popular musical comedy, "The Merry Widow." On Monday evening it was accorded a hearty reception from a crowded and enthusiastic house. The piece is elaborately mounted, the dresses and scenery are charming, and the musical numbers and dances bright and attractive. Mr. Alfred Boers scores a great success in the part of Baron Popoff, his assumption being an admirable and highly diverting piece of acting. Mr. Roland Pomeroy, who also renews acquaintance with Windsor audiences, gives a capital performance of the Vicomte Camile de Jolidon, and uses his splendid voice to great advantage in his numerous vocal items. Mr. Adrian Beaumont is a smart comedian, and as Mr. Nisch is a source of constant merriment. Mr. Robert Needham as the gay Prince Danilo played with his accustomed power and intensity, especially in his many scenes with Sonia. His singing is also to be highly commended. Mr. Cecil Warwick as General Novakovitch repeats his former success, and is well received; the Marquis de Cascada has a capable exponent in Mr. Tom H. David; Mr. Sydney Calland handled the part of M. de St. Brioche with discretion; another good bit of work comes from Mr. C. L. Steward as M. Kadja; whilst a word of praise must also be given to Mr. Clinton Reynald as the Head Waiter. A truly delightful assumption of Sonia, "the merry widow," came from Miss Grace Wilson, who, from her first entrance, captivated the audience with her winsome manner and sweet singing. Miss Cecil Haydon is happily placed as Natalie, wife of Baron Popoff. She has a taking style, and imparts just the amount of feeling the part calls for. Miss Katie May, a vivacious and prepossessing Frou-Frou, is repeatedly called for some clever dances with Mr. Adrian Beaumont; Miss Trixie Vacnor as Prascovia gives a highly amusing impersonation; Miss Adeline Roze as Sylvanie plays with much expression and artistic finish; and Miss Ethel Darsley as Olga is clever and effective. The remaining members of the company, all of whom contribute clever work, include Miss Beatrice Willis (Lo-Lo), Miss Doris Ryder (Do-Do), Miss Gladys Gabrielle (Jou-Jou), Miss May Eortesque (Clo-Clo), and Miss Dacie Bedford (Margot). Reference must also be made to the excellence of the chorus, which was, with the augmented orchestra, under the skilful guidance of Mr. W. Brightwell. The manager of the company is Mr. Fuller Allen; and the duties of stage-management are well looked after by Mr. C. L. Steward.

"Jack and the Beanstalk," the seventh annual pantomime of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's production at the Crystal Palace Theatre, is still drawing crowded houses at two performances daily.

Although the directors of the Metropolitan Opera Company have refused to give Mr. Oscar Hammerstein permission to change his contract with them and present English grand opera in New York, Mr. Hammerstein announces that he has found a way out of the difficulty, and will give his services as impresario to the enterprise free of charge. He says: "There is nothing in my agreement with the Metropolitan which prohibits me from assisting in founding an English grand opera company in this city if I am not personally interested in a finanical way in the company, and I shall have no such personal financial interest." In the meantime, Mr. Hammerstein's son, Arthur, has instructed his attorney to bring suit against the Metropolitan Opera Company to break the contract in which he—Arthur Hammerstein—was named as a partner. The position that he takes is that while his father received 1,200,000 dollars for retiring from the operatic field, he did not receive a penny for attaching his signature to the contract. Consequently, as he was not a beneficiary, the contract, so far as he is concerned, is not binding.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

DEAN OF MANCHESTER'S PILGRIMAGE.

On the 27th ult. Bishop Welldon, the popular Dean of Manchester, made a pilgrimage to the theatres and music halls of the city for the purpose of personally inviting the artistes and theatre staffs to a special service to be held in the Cathedral on Sunday. Earlier in the week the Dean had sent out a signed letter to members of the theatrical profession in Manchester, announcing the service.

The local chaplain to the Actors' Church Union, the Rev. David Dorritty, accompanied the Dean on his tour.

The Palace Theatre of Varieties was first visited, at the close of the matinée performance of the pantomime, "Puss-in-Boots."

After the fall of the curtain, the players assembled on the stage, and the Dean addressed them, extending a cordial welcome to the service. He told them that his interest in theatrical people had brought him many abusive letters—and one man had written to warn him that he was on the downward path. "Whatever the path," concluded the Dean, "let us go together."

The company cheered heartily, and all joined in singing, "For he's a jolly good fellow."

During the evening the four city theatres were visited, and a brief space during scene-changing was seized to assemble all artistes and staff workers behind.

Bishop Welldon, in each house, emphasised his wish to establish sympathy between Church and Stage, and his cordial words were received with such vigorous cheers that the audience in front must have wondered what was taking place behind the curtain.

The result was a crowded congregation at the Cathedral service on Sunday afternoon. At the conclusion of his sermon the Dean pleaded that his fellow-churchmen and fellow-Christians should cease their ill-informed abuse of the theatre, and treat the profession with the respect which the Church of England throughout history has treated it.

The objects of Church and Stage are, and must be, different, but the alliance between them may be honourable and valuable. "Preachers upon the stage," said the Dean, "are as grave a mistake as actors in the pulpit; but while it is in the power of the Stage to broaden the sympathies of the Church, not less, I think, is it in the power of the Church to dignify and elevate the associations of the Stage."

Mr. B. Macdonald Hastings has appointed the Collection Bureau of the Society of Authors his agents for the collection of amateur fees in respect of "The New Sin" and "Love—And What Then?"

There was a strike on Saturday of all the extra stage hands engaged at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, where Mr. George Dance's chief company was appearing in "The Whip." About ten minutes before the opening of the afternoon performance, the men told the resident-manager that 1s. a performance was insufficient remuneration for a big production like "The Whip," and asked for 1s. 6d. This was granted; when, so it is stated, the spokesman of the men further demanded that a man who had been paid off on the previous day for being insolent to the stage-manager, Mr. Custius, should be reinstated. This was refused, and as the men persisted in their demand, they were all paid off and ordered to leave the theatre. The performance was proceeded with as usual, with the assistance of the stage-manager, his staff, the permanent stage staff, and some of the artistes, and the curtain fell ten minutes earlier than on the two previous days.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Tuesday, Dec. 31. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. C. F. Collings, John Mortimer, Arthur Dennis, Wyn Weaver, Adnam Sprange, Clarence Derwent, Fredk. Morland, James Gelderd, Murri Moncrieff, and D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary read a letter from an actress thanking the Council for their letter and trouble. It was decided that a letter be written to a contemporary with regard to an advertisement from a bogus manager which had appeared in its columns.

The secretary read a letter from Dr. H. Grey Edwards, of Bangor, informing the Council that he would be very pleased to act as hon. medical officer to the Association at Bangor.

A letter was read from a member regarding a debt owing to him by a manager, and the secretary was instructed to inform the member that the manager was a bankrupt, and also to point out that the manager is posted in the rooms of the Association as a bogus manager.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. George Mudie tendering his resignation owing to illness, and was instructed to acknowledge receipt of his letter with very great regret.

The hon. solicitor reported on four cases.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Dennis and adopted.

The Kitchen Committee's report was read by Mr. Sprange and adopted, as was also the House Committee's report read by Mr. Mortimer.

Messrs. Morland, Derwent and Dennis were appointed the committee to draw up the annual report.

Mr. Mortimer reported that the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, was booked for Friday, Feb. 7, and that he and Mr. Collings had interviewed Sir Herbert Tree, who had promised to preside on the occasion of the annual supper and ball. Mr. Arlton and Mr. Dennis were added to the committee.

Elections: F. W. Pedgrift, Constance Eburne. Nominations: Florence Wood, Harold B. Lewis, Donald R. Young.

Mr. George C. Dusart has been appointed London representative of our American contemporary, the New York "Dramatic Mirror."

Miss Gladys Ford-Howitt, daughter of the well-known South African actor-manager, Mr. Charles Howitt, will in future take her second name, "Mary." Miss Mary Howitt was lead with Mr. James Carew on his tour with "The Odd Number," and previously appeared as Sunday in the play of that name, and as Renée Sturgess in "Dolly Reforming Herself" with Mr. Louis Calvert's company. Miss Howitt is the proud possessor of a beautiful photograph of Miss Ellen Terry with the inscription, "The readiness is all. To Miss Gladys.—Your friend, Ellen Terry."

The Bury St. Edmunds Shakespearean Society was recently responsible for a workmanlike performance of "The Merchant of Venice." Distinctly successful were the Shylock of Mr. Walter Jennings, the Antonio of Mr. H. I. Jarman, and the Prince of Morocco of Mr. Frank le Henp Salmon. Other rôles were ably filled by Mr. C. J. Dawson (Bassanio), Mr. E. Neve (Gratiano), and Mr. George Bonner (Lorenzo). Mrs. H. Shann and Miss Grace Hedges displayed real ability as Portia and Jessica, Miss K. Pettitt taking Nerissa with satisfaction. The production reflected great credit on Mr. James Mason, who admirably fulfilled the duties of stage-manager.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree had as strenuous a time in New York as Voltaire had on his celebrated visit to Paris, and very wisely, after his arrival in London, went away to rest and recover from his stormy voyage home, returning to town on Tuesday. All playgoers will be glad to hear that he will be seen again at His Majesty's in the spring, in a Shakespearean revival and an important new play.

Sir George Alexander announces the last nights of "The Turning Point" at the St. James's, the final performance taking place on Friday evening, Jan. 10. Sir George will produce "Turandot, Princess of China," but will not appear in the new play himself. The title-part will be sustained by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, and the hero, Prince Kalaf, by Mr. Godfrey Tearle; and the remaining principal characters will be enacted by Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. James Berry, Mr. Alfred Harris, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Maire O'Neill.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will produce, and appear in, a new play by Mr. Stanley Houghton, at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, February 6, entitled "Trust the People." The "period" of the piece is 19——.

Mr. H. B. Irving has acquired from Mr. Roy Horniman a new play, entitled "After Many Days." The principal character is that of a man whose life is clouded by the remembrance of a crime committed in his youth. Mr. Irving intends to produce the play in London shortly after his return from South Africa.

We regret to record the death on Boxing Day at fifty-seven of Mr. Charles Cathcart, who was for many years stage-manager to the late Mr. Wilson Barrett at the Princess's and other theatres. Mr. Cathcart's father was Mr. Rowley Cathcart, the well-known comedian, and the deceased gentleman was the nephew of J. F. Cathcart, whose name is well remembered in connection with Charles Kean's famous lesseeship of the Princess's.

Mr. Martin Harvey's projected matinée of "Hamlet," which he had hoped to arrange in town before his forthcoming spring tour, has been cancelled owing to the inability of Professor Reinhardt to be in England at the present time. Mr. Harvey had practically arranged with the management of the London Opera House to stage the Reinhardt production of "Hamlet" in that admirably equipped theatre, but the famous régisseur's presence could not be dispensed with in Berlin, and the project has been necessarily postponed. In view of the fact that Mr. Forbes-Robertson has now announced that "Hamlet" is to be included among the plays which he will present during his farewell season in London in the spring, Mr. Harvey has withdrawn from his intention of opening his own season in town at about the same time with the new production of the work, and will hold over the event to a later period of the year. Meanwhile "Hamlet" will be included in the repertory at practically every town which Mr. Harvey visits on his coming tour, and will be staged in a setting founded on designs supplied by Professor Reinhardt.

Mr. George Edwardes has benefited greatly by his stay at Biarritz, and we may hope to see him back in London in a week's time thoroughly restored to health. Another invalid of whom good tidings are reported is Mr. Dan Rolyat, who is making steady progress towards recovery from the effects of his recent accident.

Miss Marie Tempest has put her matinée triple bill into the evening programme, with a success which may delay the production at the Prince of Wales's of Mr. Jerome's new comedy. With this and the Haymarket experiment turning out so well, the triple-bill system seems likely to be adopted at other playhouses.

Everyone should be glad to see a quiet, delicate, and intelligent comedy pay; and we are much gratified to notice that "Doormats" reached its hundredth performance at Wyndham's on Tuesday, having beaten all records for receipts since the phenomenal success of "An Englishman's Home" at the same theatre in 1909. We hope the run of "Doormats" will continue for another hundred nights.

Mr. Arthur Collins's cast for the farcical comedy in four acts, entitled "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," by George M. Cohan, adapted from the stories by George Randolph Chester, at the Queen's Theatre, on January 14, will include Mr. Hale Hamilton (in his original part of Wallingford), Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, Mr. Cecil Cameron, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. J. R. Crauford, Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. Eldrett Gulson, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. R. A. Brandon, Mr. Forrester Harvey, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. C. Denier Warren. Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. Bryan G. Powley, Miss Madge Fabian, Miss Mary Brough, Miss Elsie Wood, Miss May Leslie Stuart, Miss Simeta Marsden, and Miss Rita Carr.

Mr. Howard Russell will be eighty years old next Tuesday, and he assures us, and we are glad to hear it, has not lost his vitality.

A veritable principal boy will figure in a new comedy by Roy Horniman to be produced at the Criterion about the middle of this month, for the chief part is that of a boy of ten, who will be impersonated by a youth of that age. The juvenile actor's name is Johnnie Brown, and in various scenes of the play he will have the assistance of a small terrier, of which he is the possessor. The piece will be presented by Mr. F. H. Payne, who was associated with the production of "The Miracle" at Olympia. The company will also include Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. E. M. Robson, Mr. Howard Sturge, Miss Dora Barton, Miss Alice Beet, and Miss Alice Mansfield.

Rossetti's "Sister Helen" is to be produced in dramatic form arranged by Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) at two special matinées to be given at Cosmopolis by Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter, Miss Phyllis Relph, and Miss Bertha N. Graham. The title-rôle will be played by Miss Bateman-Hunter, who is Miss Bateman's granddaughter. The programme will also include a new one-act play by Miss Graham dealing with an aspect of the free versus union labour controversy.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey's new Irish comedy, "General John Regan," by George Birmingham, when it is produced at the Apollo Theatre will be preceded by a one-act comedy, adapted from the French by Mr. Athol Stewart, in which Mr. George Tully, Mr. Edgar Payne, and Miss Mona Harrison will appear.

Mr. Louis Meyer will produce, at the Strand Theatre, early in February, a new play by Miss Gladys Unger, entitled "The Son and Heir." The piece, which is in four acts, deals with English country life. For the leading part—that of a married woman in revolt against what she regards as the cruel injustice of an existing law—Mr. Meyer has been so fortunate as to secure the services of Miss Ethel Irving, while the chief male character will be played by Mr. Norman Trevor, kindly released by Miss Marie Tempest.

Mr. Percy Hutchison commenced his spring tour of "Brewster's Millions" on Boxing night at Preston. It will be remembered that Mr. Hutchison broke all theatrical records at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg. This time it is at present at Preston that history repeats itself, Mr. Hutchison and company playing to the highest receipts the theatre has ever known. Mr. Hutchison's tour will include all the large cities this spring, finishing at Blackpool Whit week, this being the sixth visit there.

Mr. Bernard Shaw has issued a printed appeal to the audiences at the Kingsway not to laugh and applaud so much in the course of the performances there of "John Bull's Island." There was no trouble of this sort in connection with the production of "Overruled" at the Duke of York's in October.

Mr. Leslie Hughes, the acting-manager at the Lyceum, is—his many friends will be glad to learn—now making satisfactory progress towards recovery. He will not, however, be able to leave Charing Cross Hospital for two weeks, and after a necessary period to complete his recovery, he hopes to be able to return to his duties towards the end of the month. During Mr. Hughes' enforced absence from the Lyceum Mr. Bert. Hammond has efficiently held the acting-managerial reins.

The marriage of Miss Olive May, who sustains the part of Lady Rosabelle in "The Sunshine Girl," to Lord Victor William Paget, brother of the Marquess of Anglesey, has been arranged for an early date. Miss May played Peggy in "Our Miss Gibbs," and Lord Victor Paget was once in the Horse Guards. May they be happy!

Mr. Louis N. Parker has written a spectacular Biblical play, based on the story of Joseph and his brethren. It will be first tried at Chicago, where a large sum will be spent in mounting it.

Mr. James Scringer, an actor residing in Lower Balfour-avenue, Belfast, met with a serious accident in that city on the 27th ult. It appears he was knocked down by a motor car, and sustained a scalp wound and fractured arm, in addition to bruises about the back. He was taken in the ambulance to the Mater Hospital, Belfast, and after treatment was detained.

The 300th performance of "The Sunshine Girl" at the Gaiety Theatre took place on Friday.

"Where the Rainbow Ends" has proved such a success at the Garrick that Mr. Charles Hawtrey has already decided to revive Clifford Mills and John Ramsay's fairy play next Christmas.

At the close of the performance of "The Rivals" on Christmas Eve at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, the general staff presented a handsome silver cigarette casket, six inches square and three inches deep, to Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall, who recently succeeded Mr. Edwin T. Heys in the post of manager. This tribute shows that Mr. Marshall's friendly and courteous personality is fully appreciated behind as well as in front of the house.

The management of the Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, never forget the poor at Christmas. On Boxing Day 1,200 boys were given a free entertainment, and as they left the building each was presented with an orange and a packet of sweets. On the Friday a similar entertainment was given to 1,600 girls, each of whom was likewise presented with an orange and a packet of sweets. In addition the management entertained at a free performance on the Friday 300 inmates of the workhouse, including 66 children from the cottage homes. Each of the male inmates was presented with an ounce of tobacco, and each of the females with three ounces of tea and an orange, the children having oranges and packets of chocolates. Warm thanks were given to the lessee (Mr. George Tankard) and the manager (Mr. E. Robinson).

Mr. Harry Armstrong, who has for the past six years so successfully managed the Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, has relinquished his appointment and accepted an engagement from Mr. Sidney Bacon as resident-manager of His Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle. Mr. Armstrong's courtesy and unfailing geniality gained him hosts of friends at Chesterfield, and much regret was expressed at his departure. This will be his third engagement under Mr. Sidney Bacon, and his fifteen years' experience of the business will count for something in the management of one of Mr. Bacon's latest ventures.

Mr. Charles Hannan's new one-act Scottish comedy, "The Lost Sheep," will be produced by Mr. Ben Nathan in the course of the next week or two. This is the second of Mr. Hannan's little Scotch pieces, his play, "The Lodgers; or, Share the Bed," lately successfully produced at the London Pavilion, being now on tour, and returning to London for a four weeks' season at a West End hall early in February, whilst the third of the series will shortly be produced under the title "Men is Sich Fules" by Messrs. Herbert Ralland and Bay Russell.

A new one-act play, entitled "Womankind," by Wilfred Wilson Gibson, will be produced at the Alhambra, Glasgow, on Monday by the Scottish Repertory Theatre Company.

Mr. R. N. Cory and Mr. Vincent Erne, having concluded a short tour in Canada under Messrs. Lee and Sam Shubert's management, are now "starring" in that colony with a company of twenty in Jesse L. Lasky's sketch, entitled "The Earl and the Girls," and are booked solidly till the summer of next year.

Mr. Stanley Houghton's amusing three-act comedy, "The Younger Generation," celebrated its fiftieth performance at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday.

Mr. Norman G. Appleby, who was so long associated as business manager with Mrs. Langtry, has been engaged to take up the same capacity with "Hindle Wakes" Company.

At the last meeting of the committee of the Catholic Stage Guild, the following appointments were made:—Hon. Assistant Secretary, Richard B. Mason; Dublin Representative, Miss Mary Nairn; Leeds Representative, Rev. T. Kelly, S.J.; Liverpool Representative, J. Stephens-Earnshaw.

The second production of the Incorporated Stage Society will be "The Brothers Karamazov," a drama in five acts, by Jacques Coupeau and Jean Croué from Dostoievski, translated by Christopher St. John.

At the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, on Wednesday, Mr. Basil Dean, the general manager, invited to a little party in the foyer some thirty of the children engaged in the beautiful fairy frolic, "Fifinella," now being performed there. A bright Christmas tree was erected, and from it gifts were taken and distributed among the little guests by Miss Dorothy Bowett (Fifinella). Several members of the Repertory Theatre Company were also present. A most enjoyable tea was provided, with every little dainty so beloved of children. The gathering was one of the most delightful imaginable, and Mr. Dean deserves many thanks for his happy idea.

The Moody-Manners opera season at Kelly's Theatre is meeting with brilliant success, and the Liverpool public are demonstrating their most enthusiastic approval of opera as a Christmas season attraction. The programme next week opens with "The Lily of Killarney," Tuesday is devoted to "Samson and Delilah," Wednesday afternoon to "Elijah," and the evening to "Faust," Thursday to "Carmen," Friday to "Tannhäuser," Saturday afternoon to "The Daughter of the Regiment," and the evening to "The Bohemian Girl."

In connection with this last-mentioned performance we are able to make a most interesting announcement. So many letters have been received at Kelly's Theatre urging the reappearance of Mr. Charles Manners in one or other of his famous parts that the celebrated manager and artiste has consented to emerge from his retirement. Mr. Manners will take up his old rôle of Devilshoof in the opera named.

At the new Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, next week Mr. W. W. Kelly has arranged with Mr. B. Iden Payne to present the successful musical play for children, "Katawampus," by Judge Parry and Mr. Louis Calvert. Mr. Esme Percy is to appear as Krab, the man who lives in a cave surrounded by toffee, and other prominent players will be Miss Sylvia Dawson, Miss Oliva Novina, and Mr. Edward Leith.

A Mormon drama is to hold the stage of the Rotunda, Liverpool, next week. It is entitled "At the Mercy of the Mormons," and is to be presented twice nightly by Mr. Fred Granville. Prominent in the cast are Miss Ruby Loncraine, Mr. H. P. Sullivan, Mr. Edwin Davies, Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe, Miss Margaret Brinsley, and Mr. Gerald E. Reed, who is cast as Titus Tausig, "a Mormon with a conscience."

The Moody-Manners Opera Company have arranged to produce Wagner's "Ring" at popular prices on Jan. 1, 1914, at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, and afterwards to tour the whole of the provinces. As the theatres in Great Britain are not built with a sunken orchestra of some 20ft. deep, as at Bayreuth, covers have been made to hide the orchestra, so that the public will be able to hear every word from the singer, while the orchestra will be able to play every note that has been written by Wagner without it sounding too loud in the auditorium. There will be lectures in each town for four weeks before the visit.

The programme for the National Reserve Matinée in aid of the funds of the City of Westminster Battalions, at the St. James's on Jan. 31, has been arranged by Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley and Mr. Robert Horton, and is indeed a strong one. Sir George Alexander (who has kindly lent the theatre), Sir John Hare, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Compton, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. J. H. Barnes, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh will contribute to what promises to be a very notable matinée. The 2nd Life Guards' band, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer, will form the orchestra.

Mr. J. T. Grein contemplates a revival of the Independent Theatre in February if he can only get 200 subscribers at two guineas each. A translation by himself and Mrs. Grein of a play by Mrs. Simons-Meers will be the first attraction, with Mr. Henri de Vries in the leading part. There will be four performances per season, of which Mr. J. Fisher White will be director. The experiment will be a most interesting one.

We regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Sarah Hall Caine, mother of the novelist. Mrs. Caine died on Friday of last week at the residence in Maida Vale of her daughter, Miss Lily Hall Caine, at the age of eighty-four. The funeral took place on Monday at Liverpool. A short service was held at the Myrtle-street Baptist Church. The interment took place in the family grave at Smithdown-road Cemetery. Mr. Hall Caine was not present, being unable to travel from St. Moritz, Switzerland, owing to ill-health.

Miss Bessie Bedford has returned to the theatres after five years in the music halls, and has been engaged by Mr. Edwin T. Heys to play Mrs. Jeffcote in "Hindle Wakes."

Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, of South Africa, have just cabled their London representative that Mr. H. B. Irving has opened his season with "The Lyons Mail" at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg, with remarkable success.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Edmund Tearle's serious condition remains unchanged.

It is not often that such hospitality as Mr. C. Vernon Proctor's "What Happened to Jones" company experienced on Christmas Day is met with. The company was rehearsing at East Grinstead, to open on Boxing Day, and Mr. Christopher, the proprietor of the theatre, very kindly invited them en bloc to spend Christmas Day at his hotel at Dorman's Park, a couple of miles away. The company drove over in the afternoon, had tea at the hotel, and half of them stayed there to dinner. The other half went to Mr. Christopher's own bungalow close by. A right royal time was spent at each place, and later all joined up at the hotel and kept things lively till the "wee sma' hours," Mr. McNaught and his charming wife, who manage the hotel for Mr. Christopher, being most hospitable host and hostess. Mr. Christopher very thoughtfully put the company up at the hotel for the night, and all felt that they had had such a Christmas as one often reads about but very seldom experiences.

Miss Dorothy Stephen, who so attractively played Miss May Titheradge's part of Peggy in "The Butterfly on the Wheel," has during Christmas week been no less successfully playing Greeba in "The Bondman," with Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, at Eastbourne. Miss Stephen has been cast for the part of Kate in "The Manxman," to be presented early in the ensuing Spring.

A sad happening in connection with the recent performance of "The Thief" by the Blackburn Amateurs was the death of Mr. Henry Austen, a member of Miss Horniman's company, who had been coaching the Society, and, as a matter of fact, was on the way from Accrington to Blackburn for the final rehearsal when he suddenly collapsed on the Accrington platform. Wreaths were sent by both the Accrington and Blackburn Societies, and representatives attended the interment.

Mrs. Caleb Porter's winter sale of costumes, &c., is now on at 175, Brompton-road, S.W., and presents a favourable opportunity to managers and artistes of securing some real bargains. The handsome costumes used in the last act of "Milestones" are the creation of Mrs. Porter's artistic mind.

The Incorporated Society of Musicians received a municipal welcome to Birmingham on Tuesday, when Mr. Landon Ronald, Principal of the Guildhall School of Music, addressing the conference on the advance of conducting and orchestral playing, denied the suggestion that one became a conductor when everything had spelt failure, and asserted that conducting required more study and more natural gift than any other art, excepting perhaps composition. Nor did it necessarily follow that composers made successful conductors.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"PUPPCHEN,"

Musical Burlesque, in Three Acts, by MM. Kren and Kraatz, Produced at the Thalia, Dec. 14.

Briesekorn	Herr Sondermann
Laura	Frau Junker-Schatz
Hortense	Fräulein Della Donna
Marie	Fräulein Dalossy
Lore	Fräulein Grünberg
Hilde	Fräulein Wallis
Blankenstein	Herr Bechert
Hänschen	Herr Rieck
Black	Herr Stolzenberg
Von Bennewitz	Herr Gruber
Clara	Fräulein Schneider
Wanda	Fräulein Casper
Hallersdorf	Herr Junkermann
Frau Schultz	Fräulein Hobs
Doerthe	Fräulein Reinieken
Ein schwarzer Boy	Fräulein Loehr
Estrella	Fräulein Heim
Kulicke	Herr Haase

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday.—The Thalia has been noted for many decades for its merry burlesque farces and similar pieces, and the present managers understand how to keep up its reputation. "Puppchen" met with an enthusiastic reception, and will certainly run well all through the holidays, rivalling possibly "Autoliebchen," which passed its 200th consecutive performance. Herr Jean Gilbert is again responsible for the bright and taking music, and the up-to-date couplets are once more the work of one of the Thalia managers, Herr Schönfeld. It would be a useless task to attempt to describe the plot, if plot indeed there be. The whole is a pot-pourri of broad nonsense, with capital singing and dancing and brilliant mounting. One of the great features is the flying sport, the scene being laid in a country house at Dahlberg, near the Johannisthal Aerodrome, which is a few miles out of Berlin. The proprietor, Herr Briesemann, has four nieces, Hortense, Marie, Lore, and Hilde, and to get these well married is the aim of his life, Hortense having already a spouse. That the end is accomplished is a foregone conclusion, and a good deal of amusement is provided for everyone before the happy events come off. Of course, one of the bridegrooms in prospective is an aviator and another an American multi-millionaire. The patter songs are very bright, and many were encored. The interpretation altogether was excellent, and the applause was long and loud.

Out of compliment to Herr Hauptmann on his fiftieth birthday, a long series of his plays has been put in the Lessing bill, among them the very unpleasant tragedy "Rose Bernd." Notwithstanding admirable acting, the piece this time did not inspire any enthusiasm, but was received coldly by a very "thin" audience. Even the critics have now admitted that there is not so much good in the play as they thought there was on its first production some years ago. The entertaining "thieves' comedy," the "Biberpelz," by the same author, is, on the other hand, always welcome, and has been repeatedly given at the Lessing during the past fortnight.

Prof. Reinhardt has, at last, kept his promise of bringing "The Blue Bird" before the Berlin public. The performance was, as was only to be expected, an enormous success, mounting and interpretation being first rate. Herr Epstein has translated the work into German, and two of the scenes have been cut, there being ten in all. Fräulein Lia Rosen gave an excellent account of Tyltyl, and a clever child actress, Mathilde Danegger, was quite charming as Mytyl, displaying humorous talent beyond her years. Fräulein Gertrud was a wonderful Cat, and Herr Victor Arnold gave a capital account of the Cat. Other rôles were well rendered by Fräulein Heims (Frau Reinhardt), Fräulein Rosenberg, Fräulein Dietrich, and Herr Pagay. Herr Humperdinck's music created a very favourable impression, and, in a word, the Deutsches had what is known here as its "good" night.

Lehar's new operetta, "Das Fürstenkind" (The Royal Child) will be produced to-night at the Gross-Berlin Theatre. Booking has been very busy for some time.

"DIE FRAU PRASIDENTIN."

Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Hennequin and Weber, Produced at the Residenz, Dec. 28.

Tricointe	Herr Sikla
Aurore	Fräulein Koehler
Denise	Fräulein Edelsberg
Gobette	Fräulein Aschenbach
Gaudet	Herr Seldenek
Marius	Herr Falkenstein
Rostmonde	Herr Treptow
La Moulaine	Herr Liebesny
Pinglet	Herr Wallburg
Biennassis	Herr Frey
Angelina	Fräulein Reisenhofer
Sophie	Fräulein Brock
Juliette	Fräulein Goab
Poche	Philippi
Francois	Herr Stieffny
Dominique	Herr Schuchardt

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Jan. 2.—This laughable farce, done into capital German by Herr Bolten-Bäckers, will certainly prove the most successful play produced thus far under the new management. It was admirably acted, Herr Sikla in the chief rôle recalling the palmy days of Herr Alexander's régime, and the rest of the company playing up to his clever lead equally well. The reception was extremely cordial, verging on the enthusiastic, and the audience laughed till they were tired. To describe the plot would be an almost hopeless task; it is moreover probably known to your readers. The "Frau Präsidentin" is, of course, not the wife of the President, but a lively lady who is consoling him for his spouse's temporary absence called Gobette. The force of circumstances is the reason why she is presented to the Minister as "Frau Präsidentin." During a tour through the provinces for the purpose of inculcating morals in his subordinates, the Minister finds Gobette and the injudicious President in an equivocal situation, so that the introduction is inevitable. The complications and misunderstandings that arise in consequence of this deception are better imagined than described; it is sufficient to say that the fun becomes fast and furious, and we are whirled through the three acts before we know where we are. The popular actor-manager, Herr Sikla, was called repeatedly before the curtain, and with him the other leading members of the cast.

Herr Lehar's new operetta, "Das Fürstenkind," which was produced at the Gross-Berlin Theatre on Friday last, was eagerly anticipated. It proved quite equal to expectations, being indeed among the best things the composer has written. There is less of the operetta and more of grand opera in the work than in Herr Lehar's previous works, and it seems as though those prophets are right who predict that this clever composer will before very long go over to grand opera entirely. The book is the work of Herr Victor Leon and offers very little oportunity for comic scenes. The action passes in Greece, and the heroine—the "princely child"—is Photini, the daughter of the famous brigand, Hatchi Stavros. The beautiful Photini knows nothing of her father's calling, but has been brought up in great luxury as the "Princess Parnes." She has a handsome mansion at Athens and is the centre of the highest society. Princess Parnes meets and falls in love with an American naval officer, Bill Harris, whose ship is stationed there. He loves her too, but hearing much of the fruitless attempts on the part of the Greek police to take the dreaded brigand prisoner, makes a vow that he will not wed Parnes until he has accomplished the deed. Accompanied by his sweetheart, Captain Harris goes off to the mountains on his quest, and is taken prisoner himself by Stavros's band. Discovering that it is his daughter's lover, however, the captain of the brigands lets him go, and is later on decoyed on Harris's ship. In view of the tender relations between Photini and the American no drastic measures are adopted, and the conclusion is as harmonious as anyone can desire. A second love episode of minor importance is the passion inspired in the doughty brigand's heart for a beautiful English girl named Mary Ann, whom he had taken captive to obtain a high ransom. Her heart also is considerably involved, and we have every reason to believe that after various obstacles are overcome there will be another happy pair. The music is very melodious, and the orchestration is admirable; there are occasional passages that remind the hearer of "Tiefland" and other deeper works, but Lehar's new operetta is original enough to increase his fame in a very creditable manner. The interpretation was good all round, and the reception was exceedingly enthusiastic, many numbers being encored.

The first cinematographic congress and exhibition ever held in Germany took place in Berlin recently with a good deal of success. Hundreds of interested visitors were present at the opening, and the exhibition attracted people from all parts. Everything appertaining to the ever-increasing film industry was dislayed, and there were shows for various types of professions, including medical men, dentists, and schoolmasters. The one thing that the German authorities are endeavouring to find is the non-inflammable film. Some films of this description were exhibited to the police president at the head police depôt the other day, and are said to have been very successful. The inflammable element in the celluloid is eliminated by a special preparation, and when ignited the film chips off, but does not flame up or cause smoke. The invention is at present the secret of a Berlin firm.

"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT" AT RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Messrs. Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter need not blush at the vandalism involved in boiling down Major Drury and Leo Trevor's comedy, "The Flag Lieutenant." Mounted with scrupulous care, and acted with vigour and no little skill, the Playhouse success wins a host of new friends. We are inclined to think this is the best of the tabloid productions yet presented by Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter. Whatever has dropped out under the humanising effect of the pruning knife—and "two houses a night"—there is left a lot of really clever work and the main bulk of comedy. The cast is extensive, and is filled from Admiral to the "flapper middy" with care and discretion. To Mr. H. L. Bruce fell the lot of the Flag Lieutenant, Richard Lascelles, and it is only fair to add be acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of a delighted audience. Mr. George Mallet as Vice-Admiral Wynne wafts the ozone across the footlights, and his performance throughout bears the stamp of a really fine impersonation; then there is Major Wm. Thesiger, magnificently played by Mr. H. Wolston, and we doubt if this clever actor has ever done better. Excellent is Mr. H. Edward as the gallant surgeon, Walter Crutchley, nor should a delicious son of Cockaigne, Thos. Steele, the Sergeant of the Marines, skilfully played by Mr. V. R. C. Moore, be forgotten. His humour was one of the hits of the evening. Quite a capital little bit of character acting was given by Mr. Elliss Dee as the inquisitive scandalmonger, General Gough Bogle; and if the male members of the excellent little company did well, equal praise is due to the ladies. Premier honours belong without question to Miss Laura Hanson—a singularly fine performance is hers, and her Mrs. Cameron proved a really talented impersonation from start to finish. In Act III. she scored an unequivocal triumph. Miss May Lytton is an interesting and refined Lady Hermoine Wynne. Miss Gladys Storey created another success as Viola. Miss Stella Leigh is decidedly an acquisition as Mrs. Gough-Bogle, and Miss Rosalind Ross is perfectly satisfactory as Lady Dugdale. Enthusiasm greeted the performance throughout. Mr. Victor R. C. Moore is the clever stage-manager, and Mr. H. J. Tilley, the manager, is to be highly complimented on the success of so delightful a "booking."

MR. MATHESON LANG'S NEW PRODUCTION.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Matheson Lang has now recovered from his recent indisposition, resulting from his having to combat with the vagaries of an English climate, after experiencing the equable temperature of equatorial latitudes.

Mr. Lang is now busily engaged in perfecting his plans for the production of the successful play, "Westward Ho," which met with such remarkable popularity during his South African tour. After a short representation in Manchester, the play will be produced at the London Palladium next month, with Mr. Lang and Miss Hutin Britton in the principal parts. A very strong cast has now been engaged, and it may be confidently anticipated that the pronounced success achieved by the play in South Africa will be repeated at the Palladium.

SARAH BERNHARDT'S AMERICAN TOUR.

Extraordinary success is attending Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's tour in the United States; and, as illustrating the remarkable activity of the eminent actress, it is interesting to record the "tour route" which she has sent to us by this week's mail.

After opening at the Majestic Theatre, Chicago, on Dec. 1 last, St. Louis, Milwaukee, and St. Paul filled up the remaining dates for that month; and at all these towns Mme. Bernhardt and her talented Leading Man, M. Lou Tellegen, supported by an excellent company, presented plays familiar to the English public to enthusiastic and crowded audiences.

On Jan. 2 Mme. Bernhardt visited Minneapolis, and the remainder of her tour includes the following towns:—Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada; Bellingham Bay, Washington; Seattle, Washington; Portland, Oregon; Chico, California; Stockton, California; San Jose, California; San Francisco, California; Oakland, California; Fresno, California; Los Angeles, California; Salt Lake City, Utah; Denver, Colorado; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Pueblo, Colorado; Lincoln, Nebraska; Omaha, Nebraska; Kansas City, Montana. On April 16 the eminent actress will play a season in New York.

"The Three Musketeers," Alexandre Dumas' masterpiece, will be staged at the New Middlesex on Monday. Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, and the Three Diamonds, singers, skaters, and dancers, will be found in the variety part of the programme.

Miss Mildred Blanchard, who was obliged to postpone her engagements through illness, wishes to thank, through the columns of "The Era," for numerous inquiries and good wishes, and is pleased to state that she is on her way to recovery, and trusts will soon be able to be about again.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA FEMME SEULE."

Play, in Three Acts, by M. Brieux, Produced at the Gymnase on Dec. 22.

Thérèse .....Mlle. Jeanne Provost
Mme. Néris .....Mlle. Marguerite Caron
Mlle. de Meuriau .....Mlle. Emilienne Dux
Mme. Guéret .....Mlle. Cécile Caron
Caroline Legrand .....Mlle. Louise Marquet
Néris .....M. André Calmettes
Féliat .....M. Signoret
René .....M. Monteaux
Guéret .....M. Henry-Houry
Vincent .....M. Lamy
Maflu .....M. Paul Bert

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 26.—M. Brieux, who has given us already many excellent plays, considers the stage a rostrum, where he can discuss questions interesting to suffering humanity, and, like an honest, intelligent preacher, he shows us that our social system is at fault. In "La Femme Seule" his aim is to point out the difficulty of respectable girls earning their living, and, according to him, the manner in which girls are educated to-day is in a great measure responsible for this. Their sole ambition, he says, is to secure a husband, and the tuition they receive—which includes dancing, strumming on the piano, private theatricals—has no other object than to try to please the man who possibly may develop into a fiancé. In France penniless girls have but few chances of marrying, and it is of these that Mr. Brieux speaks, but without offering either suggestion or help—nothing but the lamentable truth that all who have made the experiment must acknowledge. The moral of "La Femme Seule" is sad, but in the present conflict between the weak and the strong it is inevitable: the woman falls. In fact, there is no exit for the penniless girl except through the arms of a man, the expression to be taken in the physical sense. The plot of "La Femme Seule" is not complicated. The heroine, Thérèse, is a girl who goes through some terrible experiences. Her parents having died when she was a little girl leaving her a large fortune, she has been staying at the house of some kind-hearted people who have stood her in parents' stead. A wicked lawyer has been speculating away Thérèse's fortune, and she remains penniless. She is engaged to René, a wealthy manufacturer's son, but when René's parents hear of the calamity that has befallen her they at once break off the engagement, whereupon the girl decides to leave her friends and earn her own living. She joins the staff of "La Femme Libre," a woman's paper, owned by Néris, a lady-killer. For a while things go well with Thérèse, but when her employer begins to make love to her she throws up her post. In the third act we find her in the workshop of a large bookbinding firm, where she has been fortunate enough to find permanent work. Many women are employed there, and the firm pays them handsome wages. This happy state of things, however, is too good to last. A deputation of workmen calls on the firm to inform them that they consider woman's labour an unfair opposition. A woman's place, they say, is at home, to cook her husband's dinner and look after the children. "But supposing a woman is not married?" asks the head of the firm. "That makes no difference" is the rejoinder, "a woman's place is at home!" When the workmen see that arguments fail, they organise a general strike, and resort to such acts of violence that the firm is compelled to discharge the women. Once more Thérèse is thrust upon the world, and nothing remains to her but to join her ex-fiancé, who now becomes her lover. The work met with a most cordial reception.

"LA PART DU FEU."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Mouëzy-Eon and Nancey, Produced at the Bouffes-Parisiens on Dec. 24.

Ginette .....Mlle. Arlette Dorgère
Denise .....Mlle. Marcelle Praince
Marise .....Mlle. Templey
Lydie .....Mlle. Parys
Dolorès .....Mlle. Morgane
De Chanteney .....M. Victor Boucher
Montigny Mariotte .....M. Hurteaux
Tanneron .....M. Lefaur
Rognette .....M. Mathillon
Nelusko .....M. Signoret

This is an amusing little comedy which contains several peppery scenes rather difficult to describe. Roger de Chanteney Ginette, newly married, must leave for Mexico, where Ginette hopes to receive a legacy bequeathed to her by an eccentric old uncle. At the last moment Roger being prevented from accompanying her, the young wife, afraid that her husband may be led astray by some fascinating lady, hits upon a strange stratagem. Having made the acquaintance of Denise, a demi-mondaine, she asks that kind-hearted creature to make love to Roger, never to leave him to himself, but without "going too far." Strangely enough, Denise accepts this mission. When, however, Roger accidentally hears of this arrangement, he at once becomes the lover of Marise, Ginette's bosom friend, whilst his secretary is received with open arms by the demi-mondaine. It is impossible to relate the scenes that ensue. Sufficient to say that Ginette does not start for Mexico, and returns to find things very much topsy-turvy. In the end, husband and wife become reconciled, and have just time to start on their long journey to take possession of the legacy. The work was remarkably well acted. Mlle. Dorgère supplied an amusing sketch of the indignant young wife; Mlle. Templey and Marcelle Praince looked and played their parts to perfection; M. Victor Boucher was splendid in the rôle of the husband; and M. Hurteaux impersonated a magistrate in his usual droll manner.

The Théâtre des Capucines has given us a remarkably clever review by MM. Rip and Bousquet. It is called "Paris fin de règne," and is certainly one of the best productions of its kind that has come our way. In this parade of Paris celebrities M. Le Bargy is rather severely taken to task. This gentleman has of late pushed himself a little too much forward, and it is to be hoped that the lesson contained in the review will not be lost upon him. Shriekingly funny, too, is the scene wherein M. Faillières, at the end of his tenure of office, leaves the Elysée palace with his goods and chattels. But the great "hit" of the evening was when M. Berthez, the popular actor-manager, entered the hall, sat down in the stalls, followed by an eccentric Argentine (M. Luguet), and an extravagantly dressed lady (Mlle. Jane Marnac), and the three began to make unflattering remarks about the review. The audience roared with laughter, and the new production bids fair to have a long run. Mlle. Jane Marnac, one of the most talented stars of the music hall stage, had a tremendous success, a success she shared with M. Berthez, MM. Arnaudy, Tramont, Luguet, Mmes. Dantès, Marconi, and Muller.

"FERVAAL."

Musical Play, in Three Acts and a Prologue, Poem and Music by Vincent D'Indy; Revived at the Opéra on Jan. 2.

Guilhen .....Mlle. Bréval
Kaito .....Mlle. Charny
Fervaal .....M. Muratore
Arfagard .....M. Delmas
Moussah .....M. Fubois
Grympuig .....M. Cerdan
Ilbert .....M. Nansen
Lennamor .....M. Dutreix
Gwelkingular .....M. Triadou
Edwig .....M. Varelly
Bard .....M. Gonguet

PARIS, Jan. 2.—"Fervaal" is an important work, which, produced for the first time in 1898, has been successfully revived at the Opéra, where it received an excellent reception. M. Vincent d'Indy holds a prominent position among the French composers, and the managers of our first lyric stage acted wisely in adding "Fervaal" to its répertoire. Like Wagner, M. Vincent d'Indy wrote his own libretto so as to be certain that the words should exactly suit his music and fully express his ideas. Fervaal, the son of an ancient race, has been brought up by Arfagard, an old Druid, who tells him that he will have to accomplish great deeds. In an encounter, however, with a horde of brigands, Fervaal is severely wounded, and, despite Arfagard's skill, he would have died if Guilhen, a beautiful Saracen maiden, had not come upon the scene and saved his life. Fervaal, in order to become the chief of the tribe of Cravann, was compelled to make a vow of chastity and to ignore love, but whilst he is with Guilhen he breaks that vow. After a heroic effort he sends away the siren, but it is too late. At Guilhen's bidding Cravann is overrun with Saracens. The men of Cravann are defeated, whilst the beautiful Guilhen, the daughter of the Sun, unable to live in the rough northern climate, dies at Fervaal's feet. Fervaal then seizes this lovely burden in his arms, and, climbing the rocks, higher and higher, he hears mysterious voices sing the "Pange lingua"—"Death conquered by love"—a chant in which he joins. And it is this symbol which the gifted composer has attempted to describe. The music belongs to the category often described as "scientific," which means that it is not overflowing in melody, and will only be understood by a privileged few. But the orchestration is so brilliant, so highly coloured as to arouse admiration, even with those who are not musically educated. To sing a work of that kind is no easy matter, and M. D'Indy owes a debt of gratitude to his exponents. M. Muratore was remarkable in the rôle of Fervaal, and M. Delmas showed himself a most impressive Arfagard. Mlle. Bréval and Mlle. Charny also scored a great success in their impersonation of Guilhen and Kaito.

The French never forget the great actors and actresses inscribed on France's glory roll, even if they have been dead for a great many years. Not long ago Talma, the famous actor—who, by the way, taught the great Napoleon how to wear the Imperial mantle on the day of his coronation—was once more discussed in the theatrical press. To-day it is the turn of Mme. Rachel, the celebrated tragedienne, and once more anecdotes are told about her. One of our confrères relates the following delightful story. One night Rachel played "Phèdre" at the Comédie-Française, and there was, as usual, a full house. It was in the good year 1845. King Louis Philippe was on the throne, and in the Royal box sat a man in a gorgeous Oriental costume, surrounded by officers covered in diamonds. Stroking his long beard, the man in the gorgeous uniform looked attentively at the great actress. He did not understand a word of French, but he listened with his eyes, and followed every movement, every gesture of the heroine in the play. It soon became known in the house that the distinguished stranger was the Bey of Tunis. Rachel was so flattered by his attitude that when the curtain had fallen on the last act she at once inquired what he had said about her, and this is what she was told. Before leaving the house one of Louis Philippe's aides-de-camp asked the Bey: "What does Your Highness think of our great tragedienne?" "I think," replied the Bey, "that it is a soul all fire and flame, enveloped in gauze!" Rachel was delighted with this Oriental compliment paid her, and she never forgot it. On her death-bed she suddenly turned to her medical attendant, and, in a low voice, reminded him of that anecdote. Then, after a pause, she added in a sad whisper: "You see, the Bey was right . . . the fire has consumed the gauze! . . ."

The Renaissance Theatre has changed hands. M. Abel Tarride is no longer manager of that house, and his place has been taken by M. Gustave Quinson, director of the Palais-Royal Théâtre. M. Quinson, however, is only there for a little while, for he replaces Mme. Cora Laparcerie, who, in a few weeks, will direct that house herself. M. Tarride, who has remained at the Renaissance some four years, inaugurated his reign with a play by M. Paul Gavault, "La petite chocolatière"; and it is with "l'Idée de Françoise," likewise by M. Gavault, and which is still running successfully, that he makes his exit. The wildest rumours have been current as to the reasons why M. Tarride threw up his post. It is not my intention to repeat these cock-and-bull stories, but there can be no doubt that an unpleasant scene M. Tarride had with M. Gavault at the dress rehearsal of "l'Idée de Françoise" is one of the causes of his leaving.

"Son Altesse," the new play by MM. André Picard and Alfred Savoir, will be brought out at the Théâtre Fémina in the course of this month. The cast will comprise MM. Juliette Darcourt, Sylviac, MM. Vilbert, Varny, &c., but the name of the principal exponent is still withheld. From what I am told a surprise is in store for us.

A young and pretty lady signed a contract with the manager of a music hall here to appear in a new revue. The day after the première the manager struck out one of the dances, whereupon the young lady at once threw up her engagement. The manager sued her for £200 damages, and the lady's plea was that as she was an "infant" when she signed the deed, it, therefore, was valueless. The learned Judge held that, although an infant, she was quite old enough to know what she was doing, but he reduced the damages to £80.

The D'Oyly Carte Opera company conclude a brilliantly successful fortnight's engagement at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, to-night. The house has been packed from floor to ceiling at all performances, both matinée and evening. On Monday evening, Jan. 6, Mr. Tom B. Davis produces the annual pantomime, "Humpty-Dumpty," which will run for three weeks before going on tour. The spring season at Her Majesty's promises to be a record one in every sense of the word, as never in the theatrical history of the city has such a list of attractions been offered Dundee playgoers. Mr. Louis Karpe, the courteous licensee and manager of this fine house, will have his hands full for many months to come.

Miss Agnes Maude, of "Are You a Mason?" company, whom we have heard of before helping the poor, and who is always to the front, this year was the instigator of thirty dolls being trimmed for the "Evening News" fund, besides collecting for the "Daily Mail" Pudding Fund. Miss Maude and Mrs. Dodds, of Boston, have this Christmas entertained 700 poor children of Boston, giving them on Christmas Day buns, oranges, crackers, and toys from a huge tree. Many Boston ladies and gentlemen assisted, and the members of the "Are You a Mason?" company gave an entertainment, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the little ones. Mr. Harold Dodds, in a short speech, thanked the Mayor, who was patron of the fund, and also Mr. and Mrs. Williams (Miss Agnes Maude), Mrs. Dodds, and all the other workers, and the children gave three hearty cheers for all concerned.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL.

SUCCESSFUL MANAGER AND PLAYWRIGHT.

From Agricultural Chemist to Actor, Manager plus Playwright is a record which generates the belief that the person to whom these activities are attached may conceivably have something to relate concerning them which should prove interesting. Therefore, it befel that upon the occasion of one of Mr. J. A. Campbell's frequent business visits to the Metropolis, an "Era" representative enticed the well-known proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Grantham, to his club.

"You would 'bid me discourse,' sir, about my past? Well, if you will have it so, you must excuse my being rather more, shall I say, egotistical than is perhaps customary with your willing victims.

"I was originally apprenticed to an Agricultural Chemist, but after three year's plodding at this pursuit—and notwithstanding that I passed all my examinations—I gave it up. Perhaps my decision to do so was 'assisted' by a cycle accident, which laid me by for a year, for when I recovered I felt it desirable that I should follow what I deemed might prove a lighter occupation. Having for some time possessed an inclination to become connected with the stage, I associated myself with Messrs. Roberts, Archer, & Bartlett—who, I think, may be regarded as the pioneers of Fit-up Companies. I remained with this management for three years. Acting did not, I may say, appeal very strongly to me: what I sought was to become connected with the purely business side of theatrical affairs. Opportunity offering, I became acting-manager for the Pinero Comedy Company in the provinces. From this I passed to the general-managership of the enterprises of Mr. T. Morton Powell, the well-known Theatrical Entrepreneur. After two

Photo by Warwick Brookes.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL.

years with Mr. Powell, I filled a similar position with Mr. William Giffard on tour. With this genial man and excellent friend (who is so well known in London as Mr. Michael Faraday's able lieutenant and General-Manager at the Lyric) I remained for three years: and ultimately we became partners, under the style of J. A. Campbell's Company."

"Judging from the successful series of productions presented at the Lyric Theatre, and Mr. Giffard's connection therewith, you doubtless find the recollection of the late partnership an agreeable remembrance."

"Indeed, I do; and it is very contenting to record that the partnership with my friend proved perfectly as pleasant as it was successful. I remember that the first play produced under our ægis was the stirring drama of the Georgian period, 'The Red Coat,' by Barry Williams, at the Theatre Royal, Stockton, just twelve years ago. This play had a successful run of nearly four years. After the first year's run of 'The Red Coat' I produced another play of Barry Williams, entitled 'A Bid for Fortune.' This likewise enjoyed a highly prosperous and lengthy run."

"And then I believe you made a new departure?"

"Yes; I produced a play from my own pen, which I called 'The Sin of Her Childhood.' This drama, I think I may say, is regarded as striking an original note in this class of play. I called it a 'moral' drama; and its artistic and commercial success may be gauged when it is mentioned that in addition to having run it for many years myself, there are few plays in greater demand for stock seasons. I was, naturally, much encouraged by the success of my initial effort as a playwright, and, being in want of another play in order to extend my enterprises, I deemed myself fortunate in meeting at this period the late Mr. Frederick Mouillot. He as well as myself had much confidence in what I may term the "Family" class of play; and the outcome was that I produced in less than twelve months, and with very considerable success, a play I wrote called 'The Little Breadwinner,' which may be described as a drama invested with a very strong, but withal tactful, Quaker leaven.

"Whilst running this play I came into contact with the firm of Messrs. Meynell & Gunn. Having seen 'The Little Breadwinner,' they purchased the entire Australian rights, and endeavoured to induce me to go over to the Antipodes to superintend their productions. But I felt that my exacting enterprises in England rendered it impossible for me to accept their attractive proposal.

"At this period (it was during the year 1906) I assumed the Managerial reins of the Theatre Royal, Grantham, which, may I say, I am flattered to learn is regarded as one of the best equipped houses of its kind in the provinces, and one where only first-rate productions are presented.

"Possessing now my much-needed Headquarters, I felt myself free to indulge more extensively in my 'bent' for play-writing—and, incidentally, to extend my enterprises. My first play from my new environment was 'The Old Folks at Home,' which at once became very popular. My next play was what I regarded as my most ambitious effort, 'From Convent to Throne,' the production of which cost £1,000. This play proved remarkably popular. Then followed my stirring drama, 'The Coastguard's Daughter,' and here again I met with an 'obstinate success.' I was much gratified at this, for I had taken especial pains to render certain scenes with all possible exactitude, and particularly the Court-martial scene. This brings me to the last, and perhaps I may term it my crowning, production, viz., 'The Queen Mother,' a play of a strong dramatic character. I first produced it at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, and the play at once met with, I may truly state, overwhelming success, and is still proving highly popular.

"As I have before mentioned, this Interview, sir, will, I fear, prove egotistical reading; but at least it will be conceded that I lead 'the strenuous life.'"

Dennis Clyde and Frank R. Robertson have acquired the rights of F. Marriott-Watson's play, "The Black Mask," and will tour it shortly.

A DELIGHTFUL DANCING DISPLAY.

The youngsters, who appear to be more than usually well catered for this Christmas, must insist on their parents, or those privileged to give them a good time, taking them to a matinée at the Court Theatre ere they return to school. The entertainment, mainly composed of dancing, contributed by Miss Margaret Morris and her children, is a most dainty and bewitching one, the programme starting with a pretty ballet, "Monday's Child——" founded by Miss Dora Bright on the old nursery rhyme. Thus, "Monday's child is fair of face," "Tuesday's child is full of grace," and so on, are each represented by a charming little maid, the line being illustrated with a suitable dance and business. "Saturday's child has far to go" gave its delightful little interpreter, Miss May Meggs, an opportunity for indulging in brief exhibitions of dances of many nations; and the representatives of the other days, Ivy Miller, Iris Rowe, Gladys Talma, Verna Nelson, Irene Colebourn, and Kathleen Dillon, all danced gracefully and mimed expressively. At the conclusion there were loud recalls for all concerned. A selection of dances followed, some by the children, and one or two by Miss Margaret Morris, a gipsy dance and a study by the latter being especially clever.

Next came a pleasing little comedy in one act by Halcott Glover, entitled "Old People Young Again." A particularly peevish Old Woman and her grumpy Old Man, complaining of their lot, are visited by a pedlar, whose wares include a magic mirror. By its aid the crotchety old couple are for a brief time restored to youth, and just as they are about to kiss change back again to old age. This time, however, they are more contented, and come to the conclusion they might have done worse than have married each other. Miss Margaret Morris, Mr. Mark Hannan, and Mr. J. Fraser Outram played the Old Woman, the Old Man, and the light-hearted and frolicsome pedlar excellently; and the transformation by the two former from crabbed old age to buoyant youth was capitally managed.

The concluding item of the afternoon was a prettily arranged wordless version of "Cinderella," by Miss Morris, exquisitely acted by the accomplished and happy youngsters. The original and beautiful costumes and the graceful and pretty little dances added to the expressive dumb show of the youthful performers, combined to make this a most artistic and effective performance. Master Eric Haydn and Miss Kathleen Dillon were handsome as Prince and Cinderella, and the awkwardness of Araminta and Dowsabella was amusingly depicted by the Misses Flossie Jolley and Naomi Hedge, and made the "kiddies" shriek with laughter. The quaint antics of a number of imps added to the attractiveness of this unique and perfect little ballet-pantomime, on the production of which Miss Morris is to be heartily complimented.

"DREAMLAND."

A Children's Christmas Play, by Mr. Walter Emden, Produced on Dec. 27, at St. Margarets-at-Cliffe, near Dover.

This clever children's Christmas play, written by Mr. Walter Emden, J.P., runs into five scenes. The first opens with a realistic cloud scene, showing a number of strange faces, in the centre of which lies the Spirit of Dreams, who is tossed about on a bank of clouds as if sleeping restlessly. She is aroused by the singing of a pretty chorus. Scene 2, a palace garden, with a table on which is a dish of tarts, follows the old nursery rhyme, "The Queen of Hearts, she made some tarts," pretty closely. Then follows a pretty love scene between a maid and a Prince, the chorus, in the distance, singing "Ride-a-cock horse." The "ugly Princess" charges the maid with stealing the tarts, and the Prince champions her cause. She is, however, cast into prison. Scene III. is full of clever incidents. The maid is seen sitting on a seat in custody of a warder, and she hears children outside singing "Oranges and lemons," followed by "Girls and boys come out to play." The maid, lamenting her lot, hears the chorus, "Little Miss Muffet," at which a great spider appears and sits beside her. As the clock strikes twelve the spider runs away and the maid then sings a pretty song. She then hears from outside the chorus, who sing, "Cross-patch, lift the latch" and the door opens. Enter a cat, fiddling. Then comes "Hey diddle-diddle," the rhyme being illustrated by the cow jumping over the moon. "Dickery Dock" follows and a mouse is seen to nibble the clock cord, bringing the weights of the clock to the floor, which arouses the maid from her sleep. The Prince succeeds in effecting her escape, and the chorus sing "Ding-dong bell." Eventually, after other pretty incidents and choruses, consent is given the Prince to wed her.

The play is an admirable conception of all the nursery rhymes amalgamated and delightfully portrayed in a dream. The whole of the scenery, which is supplied by Mr. Henry Emden, who also painted it, is clever in the extreme, not an item in the matter of detail being omitted. The dresses were by Mrs. Henry Emden, and the arranging of the music reflects the greatest credit on the part of a young lady, whose name has not been divulged. Mr. T. A. Dixon ably acted as musical-director. The principal parts were excellently enacted by Miss Nilo Andreae, Miss Lulu Dilnott, Miss Olive Fischer, Mr. Noel Wilfred Joyce, Miss R. Baker, Miss R. Codd, Miss Hilda Smythe, Miss E. J. Baker, and Miss M. Marples. At the close of the last scene, the whole of the performers were enthusiastically recalled.

John Hyman, the costumier, has had a very busy time this season. Many of the principal productions in London and the provinces have been dressed by this well-known firm.

On New Year's Eve the staff of the Queen's Theatre, Castleford, were entertained on the stage by the managing-directors, Messrs. Beanland and Emerson, to their annual "beanfeast." After an enjoyable repast and the usual toasts, songs and recitations were contributed. Messrs. Spedding and Belcher, pianist and organist, officiated at the piano, and various selections were given by the orchestra.

A meeting of creditors was convened at Huddersfield on Monday of Ignatius John Frederick (otherwise known as Fred Benton), of 20, Ramsden-street, Huddersfield, and carrying on business at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, as a theatrical manager. The Official Receiver's summary of the debtor's statement of affairs showed gross liabilities at £1,148 6s. 8d. (including a contingent liability of £400), that £748 6s. 8d. is expected to rank for dividend; assets £32 (including half copyright in the play, "Rogues and Vagabonds," and the copyright of the play, "The Secret Wedding.") From the Official Receiver's observations it appears that the debtor's principal loss was whilst joint proprietor of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Wolverhampton, when he and his partner lost about £2,500 between them as the result of a fire at the theatre, and the incurring of a liability for posters, in respect of which he has not received any consideration. No creditors attended, and the estate remains in the hands of the Official Receiver, who is constituted trustee.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY "SANTOI."

The very last hours of the year, as it happened, afforded the brightest and most exhilarating afternoon's sport of the steeplechasing season. At Hurst Park on Tuesday we saw race after race fought out and won by the narrowest margin. Indeed, Lady Madcap's head victory over Toiler in the Welter Flat Race will be a feature of the season. Dalmatian, the odds-on favourite, is incorrigible. On his form in the Manchester November Handicap he ought to have won by many lengths. If the race had been a handicap instead of weight for age, Dalmatian would have been set to give most of the competitors anything between one and three stone. Yet, on practically equal terms, he was unable to go the pace of hurdle racers and steeplechasers. It is not lack of ability with Dalmatian, but sheer cussedness, for on the trial ground, I understand, Dalmatian accomplished some remarkable feats last back-end. At all events he is the sort of horse to leave alone in future. He will probably win when no one expects it. Lady Madcap is gifted with a fine turn of speed. Her hurdling and 'chasing experiences apparently have in no way impaired it, and the bat she and Toiler were going towards the finish was worthy of a race under Jockey Club rules. Piggott, who rode her, too, gave a splendid display of horsemanship. In the art of finishing he has nothing to learn from the most accomplished flat-race exponent. Indeed, if weight would allow it, Piggott might take his place among the Mahers and Wootton. Unfortunately, however, Piggott has great difficulty in keeping his weight down to anything below 10st. 4lb. He wasted hard to do 9st. 12lb. for Lady Madcap, being under the impression that the mare was entitled to a maiden allowance, but this, as it turned out, was not the case, as Lady Madcap had won a small flat race in Ireland.

Until the National weights come out there will be little interest in steeplechasing, for, of course, an owner with a likely Liverpool horse would be defeating his own end by showing it up beforehand. One exception, however, was afforded at Manchester on Thursday, when Blowpipe turned out for the January Steeplechase, and, as I prophesied, won. He won in brilliant style, too, after making every yard of the running, and in view of his performance over the big Aintree fences in the Grand Sefton in November, he is a very likely candidate for the Grand National. Rathnally, who nearly won the National after parting company with his jockey in 1911, and who was heavily backed for last year's National, will also become a prominent candidate, despite his unexpected defeat at Blackpool this week. That failure, I think, may be ignored. There is nothing wrong with Rathnally, and, of course, he is a much better horse at Aintree than over an artificial course. Coulthwaite has also one or two other likely National aspirants at Hednesford.

Wild Aster is now twelve years old, and during his long career he has won flat races, hurdle races, and steeplechases in England and France. He is still a good hurdler, and he won the New Year's Handicap at Manchester on Wednesday with grotesque ease, and he will probably score again before the close of the season.

In view of the importance of Tuesday as nomination day for the Lincolnshire Handicap, City and Suburban, Jubilee, Ascot Gold Cup, and other great races, a point worth bringing to the notice of owners is the fact that the Lincolnshire Handicap will be run in April this year, and that being so there is every inducement to enter three-year-olds. For some years now the Lincolnshire entry has been declining, and the three-year-olds entered have been growing fewer. It is just twenty years since a horse of that age won it. The mild weather too, is very favourable to young horses, and unless we get a long spell of frost, they ought to be at no great disadvantage with their seniors by the time the Lincoln comes round. The weight-for-age allowance, on which the handicappers base their calculations, is very liberal, too, in the first few weeks of the season. In the early history of the Lincolnshire Handicap, successes of young horses were fairly frequent. The low average in recent years is probably due to the prevailing fashion among prominent trainers nowadays for wintering abroad. Customs have so changed now that owners have very little say in the matter of when their horses shall be put into strong work. Indeed, it has become more a question of the convenience of the trainer. Those of the younger school who do winter abroad, rarely return before mid-February, and a three-year-old, to compete with his seniors at Lincoln, ought not to be prepared hurriedly.

Picture the plight of the professional backer at Manchester on Thursday. There were six odds-on favourites: five of them were beaten and the other, Comic Boy, who won, was a 4 to 1 on chance. Truly, 1913 has begun badly for the professional. And but for Willaura pecking at the final flight of hurdles he would have beaten Comic Boy, and completed the story of disaster. Willaura cost Lord Derby 3,000 guineas just thirteen months ago. He was a great failure on the flat last season, and the best he has done at hurdling so far is to earn the "tenner," which was the portion of the runner up in Comic Boy's race on Thursday. Still though there is small probability of getting back the purchase money over hurdle, Willaura gave promise in his last performance that he will at no remote date bring some grist to the mill.

The death of Mr. James R. Keene means a heavy loss to the turf, though, as a matter of fact, few nominations will become void as Mr. Keene for the past two years had sold his yearlings to Mr. H. P. Whitney, and he had no nomination in this year's Derby. Mr. Keene will be best remembered as the owner of Foxhall, who brought off the Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire double in 1881. The Cambridgeshire won under the record weight for a three-year-old of 9st. Castleton and other well-known horses carried his colours last season.

SELECTIONS.

At Plumpton to-day GORGIAS will about win the Hurstpierpoint Hurdle, and the Moderate Steeplechase ought to fall to WAD. In the Street Hurdle ST. BUSTLE should be backed, and SAUCEPAN represents a betting chance in the Hopeful Hurdle. Haydock may give a victory to MINT TOWER in the Earlstown Hurdle Handicap; ASHBROOKE must be backed for the January Handicap Steeplechase, and BERNSTEIN in the Maiden Four-Year-Old Hurdle. Next week there is a blank day on Tuesday, and only the little Wye fixture on Monday. There LORD JAMES should win the Selling Handicap Steeplechase, COURAGE the Ashford Handicap Hurdle, and SENTRY, or, in his absence, CAPT. FARRELL the Dover Handicap Steeplechase.

As was expected, Miss Bertie Adams has made a decided hit in Geo. Dance's "Autumn Manœuvres" company at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, her charming singing and dancing winning high praise from the Press.

Much regret is felt at the departure of Mr. Arthur Rand, who for some years has been acting-manager of the Grand Theatre, Hanley. On the evening of the 27th ult. in the green-room of the theatre Mr. Rand was the recipient of a handsome two-stone diamond ring, subscribed for by a few friends, members of the Press, and the staff of the theatre. The presentation was made in a neat little speech by Mr. Bert Wilbraham (stage manager).

ON THE ROAD, JANUARY 6.

ALLAH'S ORCHARD.—Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
AN ARABIAN VENGEANCE.—T.R., Rushden.
AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS.—Rotunda, Liverpool.
BUNTY PULLS THE STRINGS.—Paisley T., Paisley.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
CHOCOLATE SOLDIER (No. 1).—New Theatre, Crewe.
CLAUDIAN.—O.H., Blackpool.
COLLIER'S LASS, THE (N.).—Grand T., Halifax.
COLOMBO GIRL, THE.—Porthcawl and Llanelly.
COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG.—Empire T., Merthyr Tydfil
DANCING MISTRESS, THE.—King's T., Glasgow.
DARK SECRET.—Pavilion, Morley.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
DRAPER, MR. MARCUS.—Star T., Swansea.
EAST LYNNE (PITT-HARDACRE).—Colwyn Bay (3), Bangor (3).
FANNY'S FIRST PLAY (RIGNOLD AND MACDONA).—Leamington and Bury St. Edmunds.
FATAL WEDDING.—Grand, Plymouth.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Alex. T., Widnes.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T.R., Glossop.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE (?).—Empire, Cradley Heath.
GIRL IN THE PICTURE.—Court T., Wigan.
GIRL IN THE TRAIN.—Kilmarnock and Kirkcaldy.
GREAT WHITE CHIEF.—Metropole, Manchester.
HILL-MITCHELSON AND CO.—Queen's T., Workington.
HINDLE WAKES.—Court T., Bacup.
INDIAN SCOUT, THE.—Queen's Palace, Poplar, E.
KING OF THE GIPSIES.—Nuneaton.
KISMET (DANCE, S.).—T.R., Bath.
KIT CARSON.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Public Halls, Athlone, Tullamore, and Naas.
LIFEGUARDSMAN, THE (S.).—Hippodrome, Chesterfield.
MARSH, ALEXANDER, SHAKESPEAREAN.—T.R., Macclesfield.
MID PLEASURES AND PALACES.—O.H., St. Helens.
MILESTONES (FIT-UP).—Chichester and St. Albans.
MIRACLE, THE.—O.H., Scarborough.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
MORMON AND HIS WIVES.—Palace, Newcastle.
MOTHER'S LOVE, A.—T.R., Wolverhampton.
OATH OF VENGEANCE.—T.R., Rushden.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME, THE.—Queen's T., Leeds.
OLD HOME, THE.—Hippodrome, Bilston.
O'MARA OPERA CO.—Victoria Rooms, Clifton.
PINK LADY, THE.—O.H., Southport.
PRIDE OF BYZANTIA, THE.—Hippodrome, Accrington.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE.—Grand T., Mansfield.
PRISONER OF ZENDA.—T.R., Dewsbury.
QUEEN MOTHER, THE.—Alex. T., Hull.
QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS (S.).—T.R., Aston.
QUINLAN OPERA.—T.R., Dublin.
READY MONEY.—P.O.W. T., Gt. Grimsby.
RED RIDING HOOD (DE LACY AND TYMES).—E., Shirebrook.
ROYAL DIVORCE, A.—New T., Aberdare.
SLEDGE-HAMMER, THE.—Grand T., Chorley.
SPECKLED BAND, THE.—West Pier, Brighton.
STILL ALARM, THE.—Grand T., Lancaster.
SUNSHINE GIRL (DANCE).—D.P.T., Eastbourne.
THIEF, THE.—T.R., Worthing.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—West London Theatre.
WALTZ DREAM (N.).—Empire, Southend.
WALTZ DREAM (S.).—Empire, Wakefield.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—T.R., Dereham.
WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES.—Paignton, Newquay, and Penzance.
WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—Queen's T., Longton.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (N.).—T.R., Chatham.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (S.).—O.H., Tunbridge Wells.
WHITE GIRL SLAVE, THE.—T.R., Worthing.
WHITTY-VAN PRAAGH.—O.H., Wakefield.
WIFE FOR A DAY.—T.R., Glossop.
WITH EDGED TOOLS.—Alex. T., Pontefract.
YOUNG BUFFALO.—Opera House, Burton.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the North-Eastern Railway on Sunday next, Jan. 5:—"Cinderella" co., York to Liverpool; "The Miracle" co., York to Scarborough; "Dick Whittington" co., Scarborough to Grantham; "Arms and Girl" co., Glasgow to London; "Dick Whittington" co., Edinburgh to Sheffield; "Captain Taylor's" co., Edinburgh to Birmingham; "Aladdin" co., Kirkcaldy to Leigh and Bedford; "Winter's Tale" co., Perth to Seaham; "Cinderella" co., Newcastle to Perth; Woodward's Seals, Newcastle to Glasgow; "Blackguard of Regiment" co., West Hartlepool to Workington; "Mormon and Wives" co., Carlisle to Newcastle; "The Gambler" co., Newcastle to Middlesbrough; "Mermaids" co., Thornley to Jarrow; "Cowboy's Redemption" co., West Hartlepool to South Shields; "La Petite Anglais" co., North Seaton to Annfield Plain; "Kino's Juveniles" co., Sunderland to Shield Row; "Aladdin" co., Bishop Auckland to Shield Row; "Slave Girl" co., Shield Row to Stockton; "Giro Sans" co., Annfield Plain, to Seaham; "Robinson Crusoe" co., Sunderland to South Shields; "Babes in Wood" co., Consett to Crook; "Babes in Wood" co., Seaham to Bishop Auckland; "Cattle Thief" co., North Shields to Gateshead; "Versatile Right" co., Fencehouses to Durham; "Selects" co., Gateshead to Hull; "Round Up" co., Newcastle to King's Cross; "Ben Hur" co., Newcastle to Blackburn; "Babes in the Wood" co., Newcastle to Bolton; "Mill Girl" co., Fencehouses to Middleston; "Wife and Kingdom" co., Newcastle to Widnes; "Mid Pleasures and Palaces" co., South Shields to St. Helens; "Miss Hook of Holland" co., Tynemouth to Darlington; "Aladdin" co., Prudhoe to Ashington; "Sarn; halers" co., Blyth to Goole; "Lifeguardsman" co., Middlesbrough to Chesterfield; Football Girls co., Middlesbrough to Edinburgh; "Puss in Boots" co., Harrogate to Doncaster; "Mormon Peril" co., Thornaby to King's Cross; "King Wild West" co., Hull to Burton-on-Trent; "Potts in Port" co., Bradford to Hull; "Duncans" co., Middlesbrough to Carlisle; "Indian Curse" co., Ashton to Fencehouses; "Babes in Wood" co., Huddersfield to South Shields; "Dollar Princess" co., Huddersfield to York; "Sinbad" co., Batley to North Shields; "Village Nuts" co., Hull to Batley.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements, Sunday next:—"Dick Whittington" co., Victoria to Brighton; "Chocolate Soldier" co., Brighton to Crewe; "Sunshine Girl" co., East Croydon to Eastbourne; "Babes in the Wood" co., Bognor to Belfast; "Quaker Girl" co., Norwich to East Croydon; "White Slave" co., Margate to Worthing; Jelf's co., Brighton to Worthing; "Jane" co., Eastbourne to Victoria; "Sinbad the Sailor" co., Eastbourne to Hastings.

LONDON AND SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—

"H.M.S. Victory" will travel by the 5.25 p.m. train from Waterloo to Portsmouth; and the Eight Germanias will leave Waterloo by the 11.50 a.m. train en route for Southampton. Other companies travelling by the L. and S.W. route will include:—"Red Riding Hood," Ipswich to Aldershot; Mr. George Edwardes's "Gipsy Love," Bath to Southampton; Mr. George Dance's "Autumn Manœuvres," Southampton to Coventry; "Aladdin," Guildford to Ryde; "The Monk and the Woman," Portsmouth to Swindon; "Cinderella," Bedford to Windsor; "Chinatown," Aldershot to Stafford; "Fatal Wedding," Tidworth to Plymouth; Harry Grattan's company, Boscombe to Glasgow; Charles Bell's company, Portsmouth to Plymouth; Jewel's "Change," Leicester to Southampton; "Red Riding Hood," Portsmouth to Southampton; American Rag-timers, Chatham to Devonport; Miss Aurora's Performing Animals, Exeter to Portsmouth; Craig's, Portsmouth to Nottingham.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by the above company's route to-morrow (Sunday):—Mr. J. F. Elliston's "Puss in Boots," Manchester to Leeds; "An Indian Curse," Ashton to Fencehouses; Mr. Fred Le Cron's "Sinbad," Batley to North Shields; "Babes in the Wood," Huddersfield to South Shields; Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Dollar Princess" and "Merry Widow," Huddersfield to York; Mr. Alex. Marsh's Repertoire, Widnes to Macclesfield; "Little Jack Horner," Cross-lane, Salford, to Wigan; Carl Rosa Opera, Blackpool to Carlisle; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Blackpool to Whitehaven; "Brewster's Millions," Wakefield to Barrow; "Girl in the Train," Halifax to Kilmarnock; "Quaker Girl," Preston to Newcastle; Ragtime Octette, Liverpool to Edinburgh; Mr. F. R. Benson's No. 2, Leamington to Burnley; "East Lynne," Gloucester to Colwyn Bay; "Silver King," Smethwick to Hyde; Castlenau Opera, Crewe to Huddersfield; "Indian Scout," Salford to London; "Dick Whittington," Bolton to Aston, Birmingham; "King of the Gipsies," Leigh and Bedford to Nuneaton; "Uncle Tom's Cabin," St. Helens to London; Geo. Carney's, Birkenhead to London; "What Women will do for Love," Fleetwood to Yarmouth; "Wild Girl of the Forest," Middleton to Portsmouth; "Speckled Band," Nelson to Brighton; "Private Potts," Chorley to Hanley; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Birmingham to Sheerness; "White as a Lily," Woolwich to Smethwick; "Chocolate Soldier," Brighton to Crewe; "Babes in the Wood," Bognor to Belfast; "Trip to Chinatown," Aldershot to Stafford; "Arcadians," Northampton to Preston; Messrs. Day and Lauri's "Cinderella," London to Walsall; "Autumn Manœuvres," Southampton to Coventry; "Babes in the Wood, Birkenhead to Warrington; "Robinson Crusoe," Birkenhead to Salford; "Collier's Lass," Warrington to Halifax; "Wife for a Day," Earlestown to Glossop; "Aladdin," Kirkcaldy to Leigh and Bedford; "Girl in the Picture," Kilmarnock to Wigan; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Cambridge to Oxford; Mr. Fred Karno's "The Bailiff," Rochdale to St. Helens; "Cinderella," Hinckley to Pontycymmer; "Robinson Crusoe," Stoke to Bootle; "Two Little Vagabonds," Rugby to Norwich; "Hindle Wakes," London to Birkenhead, for New Brighton; "Cinderella," London to Watford; "Fatal Crown," Stoke to Leicester; "Beauty and Beast," Manchester to Birkenhead; "Aladdin," Leeds to Oldham; "Royal Divorce," Workington to Aberdare; "Still Alarm," Dalkeith to Lancaster; "Honeymoon," New Mills to West Kirby.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT STOKE-ON-TRENT.

Mr. Arthur Carlton is this year the entrepreneur responsible for the production of the Christmas annual at the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, the subject chosen being "Robinson Crusoe," written and arranged by Arthur Carlton, the incidental music being by J. W. Austin. An excellent company of principals has been engaged, and the piece is rehearsed and produced by Frank Sutherland, who is to be congratulated upon the smoothness with which the annual started on its trial cruise at the matinée on Boxing Day. Miss Lallah Davies is a dashing and comely Robinson Crusoe, with a charming voice, and contributed six numbers, the outstanding of which are "Follow the footprints in the snow," "Who were you with last night?" "My heart is with you to-night," and "Alexander's rag-time band." Miss Davies also contributes with Pollie Perkins, "I'd like to go on a honeymoon" as a duet. Pollie finds a petite and dainty representative in Miss Ida Dorrie, and her songs, "Let's all go into the ballroom" and "It's a long way to Tipperary," are given in a very taking style. Davy Jones, the Old Man of the Sea, is capitally played by Mr. Wallace Boscoe. His make-up is excellent, and his singing of "The storm wind" very effective. Miss Bostock makes a good impression as the Good Fairy, and her voice is admirably employed in "Take me back to the garden of love." The Fimans as Captain and Mate of the Saucy Sally work hard, and well merit the applause accorded for their football duet and "You never know your luck until you try." George Spry is an excellent Mrs. Crusoe; his enunciation is clear and his grotesque costumes quite a study. Mr. Carson Hicks is an energetic Friday, and has a good duet with Pollie in "Hello, Susie Green." Mr. Harry Wys plays the part of the monkey; Mr. Norman Langford is droll as Will Atkins; Mr. George Franklin, a comedian of the quaint and silent order, is Billy Crusoe, and his "Let's have a game of ring a roses" is very funny. Miss Queenie West as the Princess of the Cannibals sings "Down Moonlight Bay," which is a very successful number. Another pretty song given by the second boy and girl, Miss Lilian Fenn and Miss Dickie Dunn, is "Little shepherdess of Devon." The scenery throughout is good, the Port of Hull, the Silver Strands of a Tropic Strand, and the Palace of Ice being deserving of special mention. The dresses are handsome and costly. Much enjoyed specialities are introduced by the Fimans, Carson Hicks, and George Spry. Mr. Barrie Lee admirably conducts an augmented orchestra.

Miss Vesta Tilley will appear at the National Reserve matinée on Jan 31, at the St. James's Theatre, in aid of the funds of the City of Westminster Battalion.

Three funny and artistic pantomimes—"Babes in the Wood," "Mother Goose," and "Little Bo-Beep"—have met with such complete success that it has been decided to extend the tour of each. The first-named production may be seen next week at the Court, Warrington, the second at the King's, Longsight, and the third at the Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Owing to an error in the programme at the production of "Santa Claus" at the Scala Theatre the name of Mr. Harold Simpson was given as the writer of the lyrics only, whereas he is also largely responsible for the authorship of the "book," having collaborated with Mr. Leedham Bantock and Mr. Alfred de Manby in the whole production.

Mr. Frank Fenton made a special journey from town to Weston-super-Mare on Monday to take up the rôle of Hilary Jesson in "His House in Order," returning the same night by the mail. He won repeated calls after each act. Mr. Andrew Money will fill the part for the remainder of the tour.

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MASONS AT WORK.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE.

Sixty-six years have passed away since the La Tolérance Lodge was founded, and the brethren of to-day worthily uphold the traditions of the past, and they assembled in goodly numbers at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Thursday, to do honour to the incoming Master, Mr. T. Bannister Howard, who, for the second time, was inducted to the privileges of his high office. In 1905, eight years ago, Mr. Bannister Howard was installed as W.M. of the Lodge, and owing to a train of fortuitous circumstances, the choice of the brethren fell again upon him in 1912, and he was elected as Master for 1913-14. The members had invited some forty visitors, and the scene in Lodge was an imposing one. The Grand Lodge of England was represented by Messrs. Robert J. Hatfield, A.G.D.C., 1909; W. Lestocq, P.A.G.D.C., 1910; Jas. Morrison McLeod, F.C.I.S., P.G. Swd. B., 1896, Secretary of the R.M.I.B.; Harry Nicholls, G.Std.B., 1904; and Charles Cruikshanks, A.G.S.Std.B., 1906. There were many members of London rank present, and a sprinkling of Provincial Grand Officers.

Mr. Thomas Alfred Best, the reigning chief, took the chair, and with masterly ability admitted Messrs. E. E. Briant and W. J. Everitt to the privileges of the Order, both gentlemen being candidates for initiation to the mysteries of the fraternity. The Master was ably seconded by his officers, and the ceremony throughout was performed in a very impressive manner. Mr. J. Bannister Howard was then presented to receive the benefits of installation. The ceremony was, of necessity, to some extent curtailed owing to the fact that Mr. Bannister Howard had in previous years occupied the exalted position of Master of the La Tolérance Lodge; but it was no less noteworthy on that account, the customary addresses being delivered in a scholarly manner by the I.P.M., with due regard to the established customs and landmarks of the Order. Some twenty-five P.M.'s formed the Board of Installed Masters and saluted the W.M. on his enthronement.

The Master appointed his officers as follows, investing those who were present:—

Messrs. Thos. Alfred Best, I.P.M.; Frederick Lewis, S.W.; Arthur F. Wallis, J.W.; the Rev. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G.C., Chaplain; Thos. W. Smale, P.M., L.R., Treasurer; Dr. W. Hotten George, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Secretary; Harry Leicester Hayes, S.D.; Ward Cox, J.D.; Walter Coppin, P.M., D.C.; Francis August Zeppenfe'd, P.M., Almoner; Edwd. Jas. Whittle, P.M., Assistant Secretary; John Allsopp, Organist; Charles Elisha, I.G.; H. T. Hipwell, P.M., W.S.; Hy. Jno. Burgess, W.M., Steward; Fredk. Jno. R. Briant, S.W., Steward; Arthur Ellis Jones, J.W., Steward; and H. Clark, P.M., Tyler.

The business of the day being ended, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren and their guests adjourned to the Connaught Rooms to dine, and after dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted and duly honoured. Mr. W. Lestocq responded in a happy speech to the toast of the Grand Officers present and past. The toast of the Worshipful Master was enthusiastically received, and graciously acknowledged. Mr. T. A. Best replied for the "Immediate Past and Installing Master," and gratefully acknowledged the receipt of a handsome P.M. Jewel to commemorate his year of office, and a P.M. Collar, &c., subscribed for by the initiates admitted during his reign.

Mr. J. Morrison McLeod made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Boys' School, which had an immediate effect, for no less a sum than 78½ guineas was subscribed by the members present to the list of the W.M., Mr. Bannister Howard, who will represent the La Tolérance Lodge at the next festival of that highly popular and deserving institution; while handsome contributions were placed in the private charity box of the Lodge.

Messrs. E. E. Briant and W. J. Everitt responded for "The Initiates," and Messrs. Harry Nicholls, Clarence Sounes, and others for "The Visitors"; and Messrs. T. W. Smale and E. J. Whittle for "The Officers of the Lodge." "The Tyler's" toast brought the proceedings to a close, and everyone departed delighted with the pleasant evening they had spent.

There was a brilliant display of talent interspersed between the speeches, a programme of excellent variety being provided by Miss Elsie Stedman, Miss Lily Ansell, Miss Mary Wood, the Four Débutantes, including Misses Muriel Evelyn, Dorrit McLaren, Bella De Dolo, and Maud Hamerton, and Messrs. M. Syrett, Walter Walters, and S. Gavin.

The concert was under the direction of Mr. J. Allsopp, the organist of the Lodge, and Mr. L. Pavia presided at the piano.

Three companies of "Hindle Wakes" will be playing next week, at respectively New Brighton, Radcliffe, Harrogate, and Scarborough. Yet another company opens on the 13th, when there will be a fortnight's season at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, and visits to Blackburn, Sheffield, Leamington, and Stafford.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

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Ali, Mr. George
Anson, Mr. C. W.
Arizona, Mr A.
Armitage, Mr. Hy.
Arnold, Mr. Harold
Athas and Collins
Austen, Mr. Leslie
Austin, Miss Mary
Austin, Mr. S. J.
Baines, Miss Florence
Bair, Miss Enid
Banvard, Mr. Bert
Barnett, Mr. C. A.
Barratt, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar
Bass, Mr. Eric
Beach, Mr. Fred
Bell, Mr. W. G.
Belmore, Mr. Lionel
Bevan, Mr. C. F.
Biddall, Mr. W.
Bignell, Mr. Chas.
Blake, Mr. Gus
Blythe, Miss M.
Bombays, The Five
Braithwait, Mrs.
Brown Potter, Mrs. Jas.
Brumley, Mr. J.
Budd, Mr. Herbert
Buff Bill's Circus
Caine, Mr. Harry
Cedric, Miss L.
Chase, Mme. Pauline
Chester, Mr. Fred
Clifford, Mr. Fred
Colven, Mr. Joe
Cooke, Mr. Edgar
Cottismore, Mr. Herbert
Courtney, Miss D.
Craig, Mr. Gordon
Crawford, Miss Alice
Crockett, Mr. James
Dallimore, Mr. A. Holmes
Dandy, George
Dane, Sisters
Datas
Davidson, Mr. John
Defoe, Miss Alice
De Frece, Mr. Henry
De Lara, Miss G.
De Loreene, Miss
de Lussan, Mlle. Zelie
De Serris, Mr.
Desmond, Miss Pauline
De Winton, Miss Dora
Dix and Dox
Douglas and Gordon
Dreams, Miss Lydia
Dudman, Mr. J. M.
Duffy's Circus
Duncan, Miss Katie
Duse, Mme. Eleonora
Earle, Miss Clara
Elison, Mr. W.
Elliott, Miss Beth
Elliott, Miss Maxine
Elliott, Mrs. Tina
Elstob, Miss Amy
Elvin, Mrs. K.
Evans and Bevan
Fannan, Mr. P.
Fields, Mr. Leo
Fields, Mr. W. C.
Fortescue, Miss
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Fossett, Mr. R.
Fossett, Mrs. B.
Freshman, Miss Ivy
Gallimore, Miss Florrie
Garbois, Mr. W. H.
Garrow, Mrs.
Gautier, Mr. Leonard
Gerard, Miss Blanche
Geretti, Mr. E. C.
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glad Idlers, The
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
Godwin, Miss Olive
Gordon, Mr. J. B.
Graham, Mr. Fred H.
Graham, Mr. Walter
Green, Miss Mabel
Green, Mrs. Frida
Greene, Mr. Alfred N.
Griff
Griffis, Mr. Robert
Grossmith, Mr. Ernie
Gunther, Mrs. C.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Miss Amy
Harcourt, Mr. Dick
Hardinge and Bass
Harker, Mr. Geo. H.
Hartopp, Prof. A. W.
Harvey, Mr. Frank
Havannas, The
Havely, Mr. C.
Herdman, Mr. Wm.
Hicker, Mr. James
Higgins, Mr. Mark
Holroyd and Whitaker
Hook, Mr. Frank
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Hyatt, Mr. Percival
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Irving, Miss Daisy
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Keir and Hampton
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Kitchen, Mr. Fred
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Leif, Miss Tiny
Leigh, Mr. A. G.
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Nash, Mr. John
Nethersole, Miss Olga
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Norri, Mr. Russell
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Purchase, Mr. A.
Purdey, Mr. P. J.
Ravenscroft, Mr. R. S.
Reano, Mr. T. H.
Redway, Mr. F.
Renouf, Mr. Henry
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Rich, Mr. Chas.
Rignold, Mr. H. H.
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Robinson, Mr. R.
Rodney, Miss Nellie
Romeio, Miss G.
Rositer, Miss Madeline
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Selbina, Madam
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Sharpe, Mr. E. Stanton
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Shepherd, Mr. D. D.
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White, Miss Edyth
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"Der Pintele Yid" is again drawing crowded houses at the Pavilion, Whitechapel. The pretty music in this can be favourably compared to that of many an English musical comedy.

The warmth of the welcome extended to Irene Dillon upon her re-entry into the cast of "Twinkle Star," at Birmingham Princes, after her two days' indisposition, conclusively proved the great popularity of this clever little lady.

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CRITICISM JUSTIFIED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I find that your critic has given me a thundering "slating" for using the book in "The Moneylender" (Leopold Montague) on Saturday, Dec. 21. He is absolutely right, in a sense; and in that sense I beg to agree with him. But the fact is, that, owing to a series of misfortunes and delays, and the small worries incidental to the entire direction and production of my own little piece, I found myself on the Saturday—notwithstanding my attention to rehearsals, and the possibilities of my giving a good "show"—absolutely unable to go decently through the part. The wig-maker, too, failed me entirely at the very last moment; so that, all things considered, and in justice to those with whom I appeared, I thought I was making "the best of a bad job" by facing the situation as I did. I asked for the postponement of Mr. Montague's play, but it was too late in the day to entertain my suggestion. I feel the position very keenly, because it almost looked as if I did not care what happened to "The Moneylender" so long as my own item was all right. Incompetence is bad enough but a gross error of taste is much worse; and I decline absolutely, and in the most emphatic manner, to be accused of wilful discourtesy towards a fellow-author. I tender my sincerest apologies to Mr. Montague, and can only add, that, at a future time, I shall be charmed to give him of my best, should he do me the honour to ask for my assistance. It is quite distasteful to me to be making such apparent fuss about myself; but as I happen to be a professional actor—and, I hope, a gentleman—your critic's somewhat unconsidered observations might tend to do me harm, except in the eyes of those who may know, from personal observation, how greatly I myself despise an attitude of "not playing the game."—Yours faithfully,

FRANK MACRAE.
32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.
Dec. 30, 1912.

"Jack Horner," at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, has jumped right into popular favour, and the pantomime is an assured success. A large number of special matinées are being given, and are much appreciated by playgoers of the surrounding districts

On the afternoon of New Year's Eve over 1,000 poor children of Castleford and district were entertained by the managing-directors of the Queen's Theatre, Messrs Beanland and Emerson, to their annual Christmas treat. After a good feed they were presented with mugs and toys and entertained to a picture show.

Mr. Norman Wrighton, of Sir Herbert Tree's company, who has lately gone in for poster and card designing, has had the honour of having his first published drawing, "The spirit of Drake," accepted by their Majesties the King and Queen.

OUR AMATEURS.

The Buxton Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society had a packed house on the night of Thursday, the 26th ult., when the curtain rose on the first of three performances at the Opera House of the pantomime, "The Witch of the Woods," book by Mr. Allan Milton (lessee and manager of the Hippodrome), music by Mr. Sydney Boughen and others. The story is quite up to festive season stamp, dealing with a irascible father, angry at his adopted son keeping company with a young lady not wanted by the said father, the young lady being stolen and imprisoned in an old castle by the nefarious witch of the woods; a young lover overcome with grief; timely help from a good fairy, who frustrates the evil intentions of the witch, and brings lovers and the father to a joint reconciliation, followed by a great festive gathering to celebrate the occasion. The whole of the three acts went with a merry swing, two or three minor hitches only occurring, which are hardly worth recording. Prominent amongst the principals were Miss G. Myrtle, in the part of Claude, played with dash and energy, backed up with a good stage presence; Miss G. M. Sadler, as Alice; Miss D. K. Bower, as Jask; Miss L. Appleton, as Rose; Miss F. L. Bayley, as the fairy, a particularly neat conception; Mrs. J. G. Turner, as Kitty, full of originality; Miss Aggie Sturt, as Madge, with a sweet singing voice; and Miss Nellie Moore, who provided a really clever copy of the name part. Mr. H. O. Tebb had four recalls as a topical patter musician; Mr. Allan Milton's pierrot experiences stood him splendid service in the part of the dame; Mr. G. H. Sabin's idea of the irate parent was good; Mr. W. R. Sanders' business as the lynx-eyed police superintendent was in every way the hit of the evening; and another scoring drive was Mr. P. Jackson's ragtime song and dance (with chorus), which had a double encore. The piece was beautifully staged, and the sumptuous dresses and accessories were supplied by Mr. F. A. Smith, of Manchester. The various dances were executed with success, and the numerous songs and choruses found much applause from a pleased audience. The stage was under the experienced management of Dr. H. Shipton; Mr. Sydney Boughen was musical director, and Mrs. W. R. Hall songs accompanist.

The Stoke-on-Trent Amateur Operatic Society made a happy choice when they decided recently to present Gilbert and Sullivan's charming opera, "Princess Ida," for their annual week at the Royal, Hanley. The standard of acting and the vocalisation of the principals was a high one, but special praise must be given to Mr. C. D. Maddock for his interpretation of the part of King Gama—a difficult rôle. Miss Editha Hatchell was Melissa, and showed a wonderful grasp of the part, acting with naturalness and charm; and Mr. James Frost, as Arac, sang his music with finish, and was repeatedly encored. Miss Edith Barnett's conception of Princess Ida was in every way excellent. Mr. Herman Finn, as Hilarion, sang the tenor music tastefully, and acted well. Mrs. J. F. Ashcroft sustained the rôle of Lady Blanche with distinct merit. Mr. Lucien Boullemeir was a dignified King Hildebrand. Miss Mabel Edge, as Psyche, did well. Messrs. Percy Hammond (Cyril), Wm. Kenway (Florian), W. P. Slater (Guron), and S. H. Brereton (Scynthius) all showed marked ability; and the Misses Louie Hall (Sacharissa), May Austerberry (Chloe), and Elsie Cooke (Ada) are to be congratulated on the way they played small parts. The chorus was excellent, great praise being due to Mr. Frank C. Bennett, who conducted. Mr. Lindsey Harmann was responsible for the excellent production, and Mr. C. D. Maddock's stage-managership left nothing to be desired. The attendance was good, and in "Princess Ida" the company has achieved its most brilliant success.

The Blackburn Amateurs essayed rather a big task when their choice for their recent presentation, on the 26th ult., fell on "The Thief," but their performance justified their rather ambitious work. The performance took place in the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, and no expense had been spared to make the presentation a complete success, the furniture and properties having been kindly lent by the leading tradesmen in the town, and the scenery by Mr. Harry Lyons, the licensee and manager of the theatre. The evening's entertainment commenced with a curtain-raiser, "Between the Soup and the Savoury," capitally played by Miss Margaret Rendell as the Cook, Miss Phillis Cronshaw as the Kitchen-maid, and Miss Gladys Hollis as the Parlour-maid. In "The Thief" Miss Lilian H. Macadam played the difficult part of Marise Chelford, and she came through with flying colours, her scene with Mr. Dougls Coe, as Richard Chelford, being one of the successes of the evening. The clear enunciation of both Miss Macadam and Mr. Coe were outstanding features. Mr. Richard A. Norman spoke his lines well as Raymond Leyton; Mr. Jack Oldham, as Harry Leyton, played in a natural manner; Mr. W. W. Gregson, as Mr. Protheroe, the detective, was capital, his clear and deliberate delivery of his lines suiting the part admirably; Miss Margaret Rendell, as Isabel Leyton, was good; and Mr. Eric Jevons did all that was required in the small part of the servant, Denham. A large and fashionable audience crowded the theatre, and a comfortable sum will be available for the various charities which will benefit by this performance.

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

EDWARD NEVILLE.—*No, it is not legal.*

A. H.—*The lady was born on Feb. 12, 1870.*

P. STANDISH.—*We have made enquiries without receiving any satisfactory replies, but have now written to an authority on adaptation, and will let you know next week.*

J. SMITH (Grimsby).—*Practically there are no rights in the musical comedy you name. Samuel French, Ltd., of 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., have a version and also the musical score. They can loan you the band parts for a few shillings a week, but would charge nothing for royalties. Write to them, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.*

S. B. R. (Birmingham).—*Try "The Prayer of the Sword," "The Virgin Goddess," and Professor Gilbert Murray's poetic translations of Euripides. These are quite intellectual enough to go on with, but all serious. For comedy you might select Colman's "Poor Gentleman" and Tobin's "Honeymoon." By all means let us hear from you again. We are always glad to do our best to help people who are interested in intellectual drama.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HOGG.—Dec. 25, at 13, Bedford Park-mansions, W., to Mrs. Cyril Wentworth Hogg—a son.

WALKER.—At Irvine, Halemote-road, Aldershot, the wife of Eddie Walker, a fine son. Father and son a big hit at the Lyric, Hammersmith.

DEATHS.

CATHCART.—Dec. 26, Charles James Cathcart, eldest son of the late Rowley Cathcart, aged 56. 193, Brixton-road, S.W.

DAVIES.—On Dec. 22, at Irvinestown, co. Fermanagh, Ireland, Zepha Davies, in her seventy-fifth year, late Circus Proprietress. Gone but not forgotten. Deeply mourned.

WINGARD.—Dec. 28, at his residence, 2, Bradford-road, Southsea, Professor Wingard, the dearly beloved husband of Alice Wingard. His end was peace.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADAMS.—In ever-loving memory of my darling mother, Sarah Ann Adams (Cicely Nott), widow of Samuel Adams, Esq., who fell asleep Jan. 3 1900. Ever deeply mourned by her devoted daughter, Ada Blanche.

"I loved her, ah! no tongue can tell
How much I loved her, and how well
God loved her, too. He thought it best
To take her Home, with Him to rest."

BASHALL (LYDIA).—In fond memory of my darling mother. As time goes on, I miss you more and more.—Bella, New Year's Eve.

CROSS (Alfred Brookes), Jan. 2, 1910.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband.—MINNIE.

HARPER.—In loving memory of my life-long friend, Charles Harper, of 3, Lidlington-place, N.W., Professor of Music, late of the Royal Academy, Sacred Harmonic, Covent Garden, and Savoy. Died Jan. 5, 1893. Interred in St. Pancras Cemetery, Finchley. Always thought of and ever grieved for by Elise.

KNIGHT.—In loving remembrance of Augustine Knight, who passed away Jan. 8, 1910. "To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die." Ella Vane, Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

LOVELL.—In ever-loving memory of Tom Lovell (Our Tom), who "crossed the bar" Jan. 4, 1909. Never forgotten by L. and M.

NEWSOME.—In loving memory of my dear father, James Newsome. Never forgotten by his daughter, Mrs. Bertha Jackaway, husband, and children. R.I.P.

SNOW.—In loving memory of Mr. Ted Snow, who died on Christmas Day, 1903, age 76. Never forgotten by his widow and children.

VERNE.—In affectionate remembrance of Arthur Verne, who died Jan. 3, 1912. Never forgotten by his old friend, J. W. Cordiner.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

Dec. 2.—Florence Clementine Wood (Lorrell), aged 35.
" 3.—Henry Leslie, aged 68.
" 6.—Sarah Marx.
" 8.—Mrs. Ann Davidson, aged 78.
" 9.—Rose Emery, aged 61.
" 11.—Henry Austin (Oates).
" 12.—George Jennings.
" 12.—Mrs. Charles Groves (Lillie Gifford), aged 63.
" 15.—Isabella Buckstone, aged 73.
" 15.—William John Gardner, aged 41.
" 17.—William Pidcock Stone.
" 19.—Mrs. Frederick Craig Napier.
" 22.—Zepha Davies, aged 74.
" 26.—Charles James Cathcart, aged 56.
" 28.—Professor Wingard.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mrs. Billington—Saturday Jan. 4.
Tom E. Cliffe—Sunday, Jan. 5.
Adeline Genée—Monday, Jan. 6.
Gordon Craig—Monday, Jan. 6.
Ben Davies—Monday, Jan. 6.
Chris Van Bern—Monday, Jan. 6.
Mrs. Mouillot—Tuesday, Jan. 7.
Hilda Shirley—Wednesday, Jan. 8.
Dan. F. Roe—Wednesday, Jan. 8.
Maud Russell—Wednesday, Jan. 8.
E. S. Willard—Thursday, Jan. 9.
John Lawson—Thursday, Jan. 9.
George Conquest—Thursday, Jan. 9.
Jessie Bond—Friday, Jan. 10.

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DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

We have received a copy of the new edition of the Post Office London Directory for 1913. As usual, it forms a complete directory of the City and of the whole of the County of London, and the several divisions of the work have been corrected down to the latest possible moment consistent with its publication shortly before Christmas. The present issue shows an increase of forty pages over the edition for 1912, and "Kelly's" still holds its own as an indispensable possession of every business man in London.

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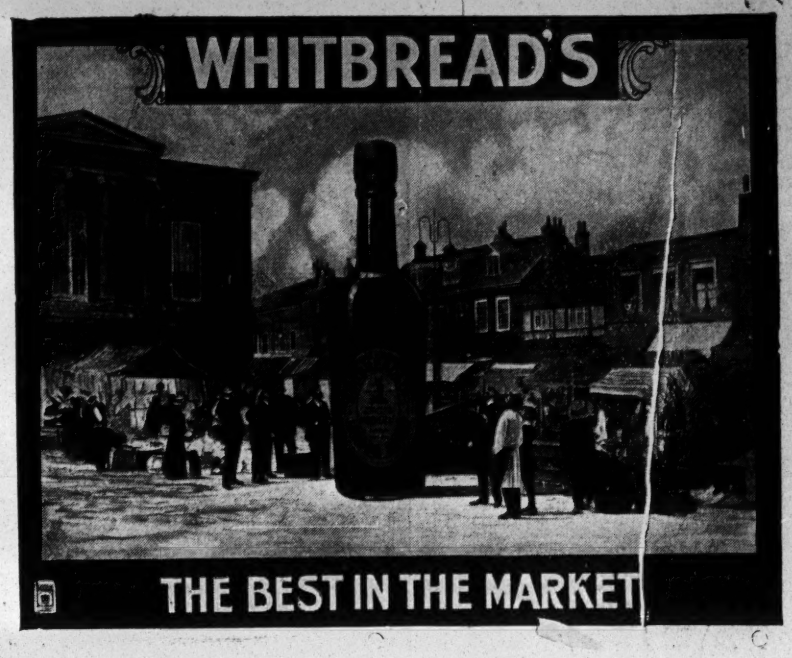
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

ANCIENT THEATRICAL RELICS.

An American paper reminds us that not the least interesting of the thousands of exhibits at the British Museum are those connected directly or indirectly with the stage. There is nothing in the Babylonian section pertaining to the subject, but the Egyptians supply us with what is probably the oldest wig in the world; a wig, it is true, that was in no way connected with the drama, but one that will compare favourably with the finest creations of the theatrical perruquier. Strangely enough, the tresses are made of plaited crêpe hair, exactly similar to that used by modern actors for moustaches.

In the Græco-Roman department may be seen the cosmetic box of a Roman lady. The white and flesh-coloured chalks and rouges are similar to those used for "making up" in the days previous to the invention and manufacture of grease paint. There are also two objects of the theatrical life of the past that have their replicas in the theatres of the present day. One is a thin, oblong slab of stone bearing the Latin words "Circus plenus," which was occasionally to be found outside a Roman circus, and corresponded to the familiar modern notice "House Full." The other is a plain ivory disk displayed in the Egyptian Room, but which would hardly attract attention. This common-looking object is a theatre check or pass, but whether of a temporary or permanent character cannot be ascertained.

Much the richest department in stage objects, however, is the Græco-Roman, where one case of stage exhibits may be seen. Here are to be found specimens of the masks worn by actors, which were modelled according to strict rules. They were made of terra-cotta, and must have been very uncomfortable to wear. There are also numerous statuettes in bronze and terra-cotta of actors wearing their masks in the various characters they impersonated, in addition to models of masks of every description and kind. A good idea of the manner in which plays were staged in those days may be gathered from the scenes from plays as depicted on vases and a terra-cotta lamp. In the wall cases may also be seen various objects illustrating the gladiatorial combats in the arena, also the swords, helmets, and badges of those doughty champions. In addition, there are also several specimens of the discus, the throwing of which was one of the features of the late Olympic meeting, and of the weights held by the athletes in the jumping contests.

To come to more recent times, there is in the British mediæval room a beautifully carved casket made from wood of the mulberry tree in Shakespeare's garden, which was presented to David Garrick when he received the freedom of Stratford-on-Avon. A little further along, in the Ethnological Gallery, may be seen a very fine collection of marionettes and puppets used in the Javanese theatres. The figures are articulated, and worked by means of thin sticks attached to the limbs. The Javanese are passionately fond of these shows, which are even more popular in Java than the old-fashioned "Punch and Judy" used to be in this country, or "Guignol" in France. In fact, they very much recall the fantoccini or puppet shows which delighted our forefathers.

In this same gallery are many quaint costumes and masks worn in primitive dances by the savage races of the globe, the most remarkable of which are perhaps some tortoiseshell masks fashioned to resemble crocodiles. Although these dances were generally of a religious character, they were nevertheless essentially pantomimic, and bear some analogy to the mystery play of mediæval times.

Mr. George Carney has in preparation, and will shortly tour, Herbert Shelley and Stephen Phillpot's opera, "The Algerian Girl," successfully produced last year at the Kennington Theatre.

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April 21.
Extract from the "Western Morning News," Dec. 18, 1912.
THANKS.
The Proprietors of the Theatre Royal (Plymouth Properties, Ltd.) wish to return thanks to the Plymouth Public for their increased patronage, which has contributed so much to the Exceptional Success of their First Dramatic Season, which has eclipsed all previous records in the annals of this historical house with the corresponding period of weeks last year. The Theatre, which opened under the Management of Mr. Jas. M. Glover, of Drury Lane Theatre, on Aug. 19, closed for Pantomime Rehearsals on Saturday last, Dec. 14, a period of Seventeen Weeks, and comparing the receipts of this year's work with the corresponding period for 1911, the books as certified by the accountants show
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This is not all—for the success has also permeated the Programme Department, for it is found that the sale of Programmes has been over Thrity Thousand—a considerable excess on all previous years for the like periods.
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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix or Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act, of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference, by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1913.

THE DRAMATIC YEAR.

The past dramatic year has been a good one financially; of that there can be no doubt whatever. But it has been distinguished from other prosperous years by the impression of vigour, activity, and life not only in authors but in audiences. The play dealing with social questions or psychology is no longer doomed to extinction after the first few nights. On the contrary, it may even be worth while to take it on tour. This is partly because the authors of such plays are improving both in character-study and in technique. Whatever may be our opinion of the "moral" of "Hindle Wakes" and "The Younger Generation," one has to admit that they are most interesting, effective and well-constructed plays; and the same may be said of "Rutherford and Son." Of course, this is merely going back to first principles. But, unfortunately, misled perhaps by the occasional successes of Mr. BERNARD SHAW, the younger school of dramatists scorned technique, and did not give themselves a chance. To propose a thesis is all very well; but we go to the theatre to be interested, not to be dully and discursively lectured. As an instance of this may be quoted Mr. COSMO HAMILTON'S piece, "The Blindness of Virtue," which was only moderately successful at the Little Theatre. Here the sermon was too strong for the show. Mr. JOHN GALSWORTHY can hardly be called a new author, and he has heard the younger generation of propagandists knocking at his door. "Hindle Wakes" not only anticipated the "morality" of "The Eldest Son" at the Kingsway in November, but "went one better" in the way of advanced thought. This was a pity; for "The Eldest Son" is a very fine slice of country house life, showing admirable keenness of observation and much dry humour.

Mr. ARNOLD BENNETT and Mr. EDWARD KNOBLAUCH though young in years as dramatists are "old in grace"—they know by instinct, apparently, what the public wants, and they supply it very skilfully. "Milestones," which was produced at the Royalty in March, and is still running, is an irresistible play; and all playgoers have recognised its charm. It supports the contention that the essence of a drama is advancing interest, not necessarily mental or moral "action." In this piece Time is the hero, and his works form the subject. While dealing with the advanced school of playwriting we must not omit to mention Miss VERA TCHAIKOWSKY'S translation from HAUPTMANN entitled "Lonely Lives," which had such an artistic success at the Court Theatre in November.

Our veteran dramatists, with the exception of Mr. LOUIS N. PARKER, have not been over-fortunate this year. Sir ARTHUR PINERO'S "'Mind-the-Paint' Girl" at the Duke of York's had only a moderate run, and his fantasy, "The Widow of Wasdale Head," did not add to Sir ARTHUR'S reputation. Mr. SUTRO'S "Fire-Screen" produced at the Garrick in February was not advanced or improper enough to attract one class of playgoer, and not human and sentimental enough to draw the general public; but Mr. J. M. BARRIE gave us of his best in "Rosalind," a most delightful sketch, which is now forming a pleasant part of the triple bill at the Haymarket.

A most gratifying symptom exhibited in the past year is the plentiful supply of native English comedy. How inclusive is the range of our drama at present is shown by the fact that even Mr. WELLS'S novel "Kipps," which one would have thought impossible to dramatise, was actually produced at the Vaudeville in March with some success. Mr. R. C. CARTON'S "Bear-Leaders," done at the Comedy in February, showed no falling off in that gifted playwright's talent; and "A Scrape o' the Pen" at the same theatre in September was a fine example of the Scottish character play. "Where There's a Will——" by Mr. BERNARD PARRY, at the Criterion, was an agreeable example of brisk and naif comedy. Then there were Mr. ANTHONY P. WHARTON'S "At the Barn" at the Prince of Wales's in April; Mr. HAROLD CHAPIN'S "Art and Opportunity" at the same house in September; and, above all, Mr. HUBERT HENRY DAVIES'S exquisite and admirable "Doormats," now being played to overflowing houses at Wyndham's. The excellence of these plays is as pleasant to note as the public's appreciation of them.

The "big things" have most of them been big successes. In "Drake" at His Majesty's the playwright has sounded a patriotic trumpet-note which, let us hope, will awake practical echoes in the English people. Mr. MARTIN HARVEY'S memorable production of Professor GILBERT MURRAY'S translation of "Œdipus Rex" has, we are glad to see, been followed by performances of the same fine work in the provinces. Mr. HARVEY has conquered by aiming high, and we hope he will go on doing so. That quaint and picturesque combination of melodrama and morality, "Everywoman," served well the purpose of attracting Mr. ARTHUR COLLINS'S patrons to Drury Lane till the pantomime season; and at the Lyceum and the Princes melodrama, more or less spectacular but always strong and strenuous, has been freely and successfully supplied by Mr. ARTHUR SHIRLEY and others.

The most formidable opponent of the English dramatist this year has been the American playwright. Mr. CHARLES KLEIN'S "Find the Woman" at the Garrick was a well-deserved success in one line; "Officer 666" at the Globe was very effective in another. One of the strongest productions of the year, "The Turning Point," was an adaptation from the French; but it is agreeable to observe that Sir GEORGE ALEXANDER'S other winning card, "Bella Donna," was supplied by a man of Kent, Mr. ROBERT HICHENS. The only other conspicuously successful adaptations from the French are "The Glad Eye," which is still running at the Strand, and "Le Petit Café," in which Mr. CYRIL MAUDE is so irresistibly amusing at the Playhouse. In the domain of musical comedy Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES has apparently reduced success to a science; and "Gipsy Love" at Daly's, "Autumn Manœuvres" and "The Dancing Mistress" at the Adelphi, and "The Sunshine Girl" at the Gaiety are evidences of his skill in selection and his experience in production.

A notable feature of 1912 has been Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER'S Shakespearean revivals at the Savoy. Though containing much that was irritating and wilfully eccentric, the production of "The Winter's Tale" and "Twelfth Night" had a kernel of real merit; and the fact that the latter revival was by far the most satisfactory and successful showed how thoroughly justified were the strictures of the critics upon the former. At the Court Theatre and other places dozens of minor novelties, some of them quite clever, were presented; and, generally speaking, the theatrical field has teemed in 1912 with a varied and vigorous crop of plays, often excellent and occasionally interesting.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Rules of Golf" (sixth edition). As approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews at their autumn meeting, Sept. 24, 1912. (39 pages. Issued by the Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.)

"Sporting Life Companion," 1913. (Price 2d. 128 pages. Published by "Sporting Life.")

"What's On," weekly journal. (Price 2d.)

"Indoor Pastimes for All Ages," compiled and edited by Will Goldston. (104 pages, illustrated. Price 1s. net. Published by "The Magician," Ltd.)

The "Pall Mall Magazine" for January, 1913. (Price 6d. net. Published by Iliffe and Sons, Ltd.)

Herbert Fry's "Royal Guide to the London Charities." (367 pages. Edited by John Lane: price 1s. 6d. Published by Chatto and Windus.)

"Footlights," an Occasional Magazine for Playgoers. (16 pages. Published by the National Dramatic Union.)

"Peru To-day," November, 1912. A monthly account of Peru's development. (Price 5d. Published by the West Coast Publishing Co.)

"Variety." Seventh anniversary number. 202 pages. Price, 25 cents. Published by the Variety Publishing Co.

"The Windsor Magazine" for January, 1913. Price 6d. Published by Ward Lock and Co.

"The Player." Third anniversary Xmas number. Price 10 cents. 114 pages. Printed by the Technical Press, New York City.

"M.A.B." for December, 1912. Price 1d. Published by T. Fisher Unwin.

"The Fraud of Theosophy Exposed," by J. N. Maskelyne. 95 pages. Price 1s. Published by George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.

"The Lady's World for January." Price 3d. Published by Macdonald and Martin.

"The Plums for our Friends." How the average civil servant is kept out of the best appointments. By a Member of Parliament. 12 pages. Price 1d. Published by the Association of Clerks of the Second Division of the Civil Service.

"The Author" for January. Price 6d. Published by the Society of Authors (Incorporated).

THE ACTING OF GREAT ACTORS.

BY THE EDITOR.

No. 1.—EDMUND KEAN.

It has often been regretfully remarked that the actor's art dies with him. In these days of gramophones and cinematographs this is not absolutely accurate; but still, the fact remains that, unlike the painter and the sculptor, the actor has nothing except a vague tradition to leave behind him.

How, then, are we to feel assured of the greatness of former actors? May it not be a mere legend, unfounded on fact? To this it can be answered that the value of the testimony of a witness is created by the witness's own reputation. An intellect like Hazlitt's would not err in estimation; and an actor who could excite ardent admiration and even hysterics in a man like Byron must have been great indeed. Such was the case with Edmund Kean.

It is almost impossible to get any data about Kean from living persons. He was breaking up in 1830, and the judgment of any critic under the age of seventeen is not likely to be of much value. It therefore needs only a simple sum in arithmetic to show that we are dependent upon printed testimony for our notion of Kean's acting. At the same time, there must be many people living whose parents or relations have given them an account of Kean's acting, and I should be very glad if any of these would send me their statements.

His Physique.

First of all, what was Kean like? A writer in "Blackwood's Magazine" in 1840, writing at a time when any error could certainly have been promptly corrected, says that Kean had a low and meagre figure, a Jewish physiognomy, and a stifled and husky voice, and seemed to be excluded by nature from all chance of personating tragedy, while the grim expression of his countenance and the sullen sound of his voice prohibited comedy. In opposition to this, we have the testimony of Fanny Kemble to the effect that Kean had "an eye like an orb of night, a voice exquisitely touching and melodious in its tenderness," and that he was "in the harsh dissonance of vehement passion terribly true." This natural "harshness" of voice seems to have been a fact. F. Reynolds tells a story of a young barrister who, after praising Kean's London performance of Richard III. to him, spoke of a rendering of the rôle which he—the lawyer—had once witnessed at the Exeter Theatre. "Richmond," said the barrister, "was in the hands of a very promising young fellow; but such a Richard, such a harsh, croaking barn-brawler, I forget his name, but——" "I'll tell it you," interrupted the actor, rising and tapping the lawyer on the shoulder; "his name was *Kean*." Here we have the unpleasing voice seized upon as the salient point for attack. Then there is the anecdote in the life of C. M. Young about Kean and his mother calling at the house of Young's father, and reciting "with sardonic grin and a *husky* voice" Gloster's opening soliloquy in "Richard III." It should be noted also that Fanny Kemble praises Kean for the "harsh" dissonance of his vehement passion. Her remark about Kean's eyes, however, seems unexaggerated; for in the Young anecdote he is described as having "the blackest and most penetrating eyes" Charles Young had "ever beheld in human head."

The Secret of His Power.

It seems to be established beyond doubt, then, that Edmund Kean was a little man, with a harsh voice, and a wonderful pair of eyes. What was then the secret of his victory over these disadvantages? It was the power of his magnetic personality, the irresistible influence of his intense energy.

This is testified to by witnesses whose greatness is beyond belittling. Byron wrote: "Just returned from seeing Kean in 'Richard.' By Jove, he is a soul! Life, nature, truth, without exaggeration or diminution." Mrs. Trench said: "Kean, in 'Richard III.,' reminded me constantly of Bonaparte—that restless quickness, that Catiline inquietude, that fearful something resembling the impatience of a lion in his cage." Reynolds said of Kean: "Every word he utters is full of power, and I know not whether he excels in the terrific or the tender and pathetic."

His Innovations and Limitations.

I must not, however, overlook a great factor of Kean's success—his originality. He was an innovator and an iconoclast. Mrs. Trench says of her boys: "They understood Kean well, his tones were so natural; but the raised voice and the declamatory style in which most others pronounce tragedy render it, I see, nearly intelligible to children." Hazlitt speaks of the originality of Kean's Richard, and of the satirical comedy of his scene with Lady Alne. Kean came at a time when Shakespeare was generally declaimed more or less pompously. He substituted for the prevalent artificial and rather monotonous style the natural and realistic method.

The system, like all systems, has its weak side. Kean was at his best as Shylock and Richard, which are essentially character parts. He failed in highly imaginative rôles like those of Macbeth and King Lear. As Boaden says very judiciously: "In the supernatural demands of these characters he sank under the burden: mere physical force and very admirable invention, too, were yet insufficient to maintain him. His Othello, however, was a very fine performance." Kean had a great power of pathos. It was in such parts as Shylock, Richard, Othello, and Sir Giles Overreach that he reached the summit of his achievement. His method of "transition from the fiercest passion to the most familiar tone," applied to characters like these, must have electrified a generation accustomed to the cultured pomposity of Kemble and his school.

His London Début.

The story of Edmund Kean's first appearance at Drury Lane as Shylock has been so often told that one shrinks from alluding to it. It is thus graphically described by a writer in the "New Monthly Magazine" in 1833:—"There came on a small man, with an Italian face and fatal eye, which struck all. Attention soon ripened into enthusiasm; and never, perhaps, did Kean play with such startling effect as on this night to the surprised few! His voice was harsh, his style new, his action abrupt and angular; but there was the decision, the inspiration of genius in the look, the tone, the bearing; the hard unbending Jew was before us in the full vigour of his malignity; the injuries upon him and upon his tribe saddened his eyes, but through them you could trace the dark spirit of revenge, glaring in fearful, imperishable fury. That night was the starting-post on the great course upon which he was destined to run his splendid race!"

Kean, with all his personal deficiencies, had several advantages of circumstance. His acrobatic training gave him suppleness and ease of pose; and he suffered terribly in his youth. It is difficult to exaggerate the agony which that proud spirit, conscious of the possession of genius, underwent in his early days. It came out occasionally, as when Kean, after his London triumph, appeared for the benefit of a ruined theatrical manager. At the supper which followed the manager, who had always trampled on Kean, alluded in a speech to their former friendship. "If ever a man deserved his destiny it is you," said Kean, in his reply. "If ever there was a family of tyrants, it is yours. I do not play for you from 'former friendship,' but because you are *a fallen man*." Great actors are like poets: they learn in suffering what they show upon the stage.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE AND CHARITY.

Mr. Cyril Maude is not only benevolent himself, but he is the cause of benevolence in others, If he has a hobby, it is children.

He is deeply interested in their welfare, their upbringing, and their preservation from all things harmful. In his delightful and cosy transformation-room at the Playhouse, where he is surrounded by numerous theatrical household gods, he tells in his own quiet and agreeable way of many matters connected with the various charities in which he is very largely and very earnestly interested. Mr. Maude disclaims all pretence to being a philanthropist, but we maintain that he is, and ever has been, a philanthropist in the best meaning of the word. He bubbles over with the milk of human kindness, and we all know that he is the prime mover in all that pertains to the Actors' Orphanage.

"You see," says Mr. Maude, "the poor little kiddies are left without a father or a mother, without means, and perhaps if engagements were ready for them, they could not fulfil them owing to ill-health or some other cause. Well, our idea was and is to take charge of them, educate them, give them a fair chance in life, and send them on their various ways to make them independent in the battle of the world. They can choose their own line of life without let or hindrance—only from us encouragement. We must talk of this splendid Orphanage for a time, because we all remember the joyous times spent at the Botanical Gardens every summer, where the most popular actresses and actors of the day came willingly forth with their services and provided a feast of unreason and a flow of soul to make the contribution bags swell."

The late lamented Sir Henry Irving was the first president of the Orphanage, and Mr. Maude, at the inauguration, was the chairman of the committee. "Of course," says Mr. Maude, "it occurred to me that—may I say so?—all these wandering, immature actors and actresses—if they wish to follow in their parents' footsteps—and they generally do—required some attention; and after it was originally started we all thought that the best plan would be to advance the conception unto—may I say it?—laudable fruition. To the late Sir Augustus Harris we owe our initiation. He lent us his house and gardens at Elm Lodge, Finchley. That was the beginning—and very good beginning, too—and then after that we went to the Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park, and once to Chelsea—the Royal Hospital—and then back again to the Botanical Gardens, where everybody in the profession lent their aid for the good of the cause."

"Ours is such a worthy scheme that one wonders why we do not get a nice bequest or two. Other charities have them; why not the stage? Think of the many performances that are given in the various theatres for hospitals, homes, and other institutions!

This principle has worked very well, and every manager in London, whenever a charitable performance has taken place, has been enabled to hand over a certain amount of money to the one particular institution in which he is specially interested. Mr. Maude, at the Playhouse, has an unique way of placing matters plainly. To all professionals who desire to see his "show," when sending the tickets Mr. Alfred Turner, Mr. Maude's manager, suggests: "I enclose with much pleasure the tickets . . . and shall be much obliged if you will, in handing your vouchers to the Attendant, kindly give him sixpence for each ticket, which sum will be divided between the Actors' Orphanage Fund and the Theatrical Ladies' Guild." Of course, this contribution is quite optional on the part of the receiver of the tickets, and we think it might be adopted at every theatre, both in town and country. It would, perhaps, be a healthy move for the elimination of that theatrical terror the "deadhead." This small tax on free seats has worked up to the present at the Playhouse splendidly, and during the past year has brought in no less a sum than £110. Some of those who have taken advantage of Mr. Maude's courtesy have given half-crowns, and even half-sovereigns, for the different charities which the genial manager of the Playhouse espouses. Nobody, by the way, is pressed to give: nobody is asked—everything is spontaneous.

Mr. Maude, apart from his many adventures in charity land, is president of the Theatrical Managers' Association, which numbers amongst its members every important manager in London and the country. The roll marks one hundred and thirty-three ardent supporters, who have for one of their main objects the exposure and obliteration of that terror to the profession, "Mr. Bogus." The members meet monthly at an office over Gatti's Restaurant, in the Strand, to protect the interest of themselves and to uphold the dignity and honour of the profession.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Dec. 30, the Drama, by William Melvyn, entitled

"A LAD'S LOVE."

A full house witnessed the performance by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, on Monday night, of "A Lad's Love," which is new to Stratford. The story of William Dorrington's infatuation for the worthless but fascinating Lucienne Helene, which brings about the young man's downfall, proves very thrilling, and the many sidelights on the seamy side of London life evoke keen interest.

A fine performance as the demi-mondaine, Lucienne Helene, a veritable wrecker of men, is contributed by Miss Zerlina Harrington, whose fine stage appearance and convincing style enable her to do full justice to the part. Mr. Henry Hallatt as William Dorrington clearly suggests the pusillanimous lad of the early stages, and later his acting is very graphic and intense. The youthful Reggie Harwood has an outspoken representative in Mr. Alec Wilson Wynne; Mr. John Blake plays forcibly as Clifton Clyde; Mr. H. Kenneth Barton is capital as the inane Percy Percival: and an amusing caricature of a detective comes from Mr. Percy Shaw. Much laughter results from the oddities of a couple of comic curates, the Rev. Brother Meek and the Rev. Brother Mild, who are impersonated with a keen sense of humour by Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey and Mr. Percy Godfrey respectively. Miss Irene Stanhope makes a very charming Sylvia Dorrington; Miss Lillian Lovell is a bright and prepossessing Flossie Flaxe; and in the last phase of Lottie Granville's career Miss Violette May's acting has the true ring of pathos, and is distinctly praiseworthy. Others who do well are Miss Eily O. Dempsey (Mrs. Dorrington), Mr. George Walkley (Jack Wardon), Mr. Douglas Renton (Count de Luval), and Mr. Frederick Owens (J. C. Wilkes).

Mr. Frank Mundill was presented by Mr. George M. Ballanger on Christmas Eve with a beautiful silver cigarette case suitably inscribed. This makes Mr. Frank Mundill's third year as manager for Mr. George M. Ballanger with Young Buffalo and Caroline May Blaney.

Mr. Arthur Law Raynor has just concluded a tour as business-manager with Miss Marie Tempest's success, "At the Barn." On the conclusion of the tour Messrs. Grieg and Loring presented Mr. Raynor with a handsome silver cigarette case in recognition of his services. He has been engaged by Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and F. J. Little for pantomime—his third engagement with this firm.

"THE TURNING-POINT" CR

Among the successes of the year must be numbered "The Turning Poi reached its hundredth performance James's on Tuesday evening, when crowded in every part paid tribute t matic qualities of the play, and the acting of its principals. Mr. Henr maeckers' piece ranks among the finest at the St. James's, and the second act an example of dramatic suggestio paralleled on the modern stage.

The greeting given to Sir George Alex Tuesday was more affectionate than us Miss Ethel Irving and other members cast were also warmly welcomed. Sir Ge given to his performance of the lion Lieut.-Colonel Felt added polish and sign The fire and energy of the actor in the interview in which the Colonel confesses t has strangled the spy are employed with whelming effect, and the scene wherein strong soldier, broken in spirit, his amb thrown to the winds, is reconciled to his profoundly impressive. The magnificent c of the man of war is suggested with the a skill of which Sir George is a master, and does not hesitate to place his perform amongst his finest achievements.

The laurels won by Miss Ethel Irving been appreciably added to by her portrayal wife, Monique, whose erring steps are arre on the very brink of the abyss the realisation of a husband's lo Never before has Miss Irving's emotio power been more fully developed than the scene above mentioned, which her co mand of nervous force serves to convert int complete triumph. Mr. J. D. Beveridge is to manner born as the gentle and reverend M signor, his rich voice giving added effect to words of wisdom he has to pronounce. T Marcel Beaumont of Mr. Godfrey Tearle m again be recognised for its sterling worth. Tearle's acting in difficult situations being fin expressive.

The light comedy of Mr. Athol Stewart Bertrand de Manret and of Miss Lettice Fa fax as Thérèse furnishes some deliciously dr moments that are fully appreciated. The part Yvonne Stettin is now played by Miss Patric Hanne, whose acting is distinguished by char and gracefulness, and Stettin is still played wit care and attention to detail by Mr. Rupert Li ter. Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, who also acts stage-manager, gives the right sinister touch the part of the spy.

The characteristic scene created by Mr. Alfr A. Harris and Mr. Harold Holland as a pros cutor and an examining Magistrate is greatly e joyed, and Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Mr. Herbert Re Mr. W. Coats-Bush, Mr. John Ridley, Mr. Aust Fehrman, and Mr. V. C. Guy do valuable wo in subsidiary rôles. To Miss Dolores Di Origo also now entrusted the part of the terror-stricke Annette, and she is to be complimented upon he portrayal.

The scenery, painted by Mr. G. Sackmann fro designs by Felix Joubert and Guy Laking, com in for warm admiration, and in their setting lighting the services of Mr. James Cr machinist, and Mr. F. Macrae, the should be acknowledged.

"THE TIDE" AT THE QUEEN'S

The press criticisms of Mr. Basil Macdon Hastings' play at the Queen's have resulted alteration and revision. The fourth act n goes by the board, the play finishing on th proposal and acceptance by Felicity Scarth o the hand and heart of Stratton, the kindly doctor and raisonneur of the piece. If we have to guess at the fate of the other characters it really does not matter; for though much of the inherent weakness of the piece has been remedied, we are afraid that "The Tide" has scarcely sufficient interest for the theatre-going public to bring fortune to the Queen's. Th acting remains excellent. Miss Ethel Warwick's Felicity Scarth has much improved with repeti tion, and in the heartrending scene between mother and child in the third act Miss Warwick's suggestion of hopeless despair is eloquent and convincing. Mr. Edmund Waller, who has succeeded Mr. Shiel Barry as Jerry le Maitre, plays with quiet strength; and Miss Cicely Hamilton as Mrs. Bretherton, Mr. Norman Trevor as Dr. Stratton and Mr. J. T. Macmillan as Tom Denny repeat their former success. Mr. Edmund Breon, who plays Lieut. Carr Whithair, a particularly weak young soldier, does not shrink from an unpleasant task; and Mr. Heath Haviland is most effective in the part of the hotel proprietor, Mr. Strick. Miss Muriel Martin Harvey is decidedly promising in the rôle of Maisie. The reception of the piece on Monday evening was favourable, Miss Ethel Warwick, Mr. Norman Trevor, and Miss Cicely Hamilton receiving special marks of favour.

Instead of a front piece, Mr. Frank Haskoll, who is at the piano, and Miss Edith Serpell present a song scena, "The Garden of Music." The lady has a mezzo-soprano of excellent quality, and sings Dorothy Foster's ballad, "Wonderful garden of dreams," with great acceptance. She joins Mr. Haskoll in a piquant "proposal" duet, and her rendering of "In a Cornish kitchen" has the roguishness and bucolic simplicity that one expects in songs of the countryside. Mr. Haskoll is responsible for a song at the piano called "The Smart Set," which is only mildly funny. As he plays and sings well he should be able to find something with a stronger vein of humour. One of the numbers is much helped by a violin obbligato delicately played by a young fiddler whose name is not divulged on the programme.

Although opened towards the end of the past year, the cosy little Cosmopolis Theatre is already being regarded as one of the most adequately equipped private theatres in the metropolis. There are many features that appeal to all who are connected with, or interested in, theatrical matters, either professional or amateur. Considerable care has been taken to secure every possible convenience both for the player and the audience, and in connection with such important matters as heating, ventilating, lighting, and seating, the Cosmopolis Theatre will compare very favourably with many of the large public theatres. The seating accommodation is most comfortable, the rows being well spaced out. The artistes' dressing-rooms and the cloak-rooms are all well arranged and fitted up in modern style. It may be noted that the theatre at Cosmopolis is not an old concert hall "done up," but a new theatre in the fullest sense of the word, of modern design, artistically decorated, and with the latest equipment in every department. The reasonable terms and conditions upon which this theatre can be engaged should prove attractive to dramatic societies, producers, and others who may require the use of a private theatre. The Foreign Theatre Society, 109, New Bond-street, W., give their productions in French, German, and Italian in this theatre, and some excellent productions are frequently presented. The subscription for membership of this society is quite nominal, and all interested in Continental drama are invited to apply to the secretary for full particulars. All enquiries respecting the theatre should be made to the Secretary of Cosmopolis, 201, High Holborn, W.C

RIETY GOSSIP

Wilson on New Year's Eve invited the Tivoli to have a glass of punch the stage. On the stroke of twelve re drunk; mutual good wishes were and later the company joined hands the flies reverberate with the refrain lang syne." The crowd on the stage seph, the host, who greeted everybody rily; Mr. James Howell, acting-man-treasurer; Mr. Johnson, the musical- and Mr. Tom Thorne, who amused the d mothers of several of those present in s" in the seventies. We hope that this Annual" will become as permanent an as its great contemporary in Fleet-

Sarah Bernhardt contracts for her Ameri- ur it is stipulated that she shall not appear vaudeville programme with acrobats or ani- Why? Sarah is not altogether averse from na, and might try the experiment of put- "The Sea of Ice," with a special scene ptain Woodward's seals; or, if this be not le, she could fall back on "Antony and tra" with snake-charming effects and a elephant scene managed by Captain Taylor. acrobats, we seem to remember that the situation in "The Span of Life" owed its st to the strength of an acrobatic troupe. though Shakespeare did not disdain the at- tions of a wrestling match in "As You Like or a dog performance in "The Two Gentle- of Verona," Racine is beyond such mere- ious help.

well-known incident in the early days of ity Council licensing is recalled by the death Mr. William C. Parkinson, of Carleton House, ifield-avenue, Hornsey, which was announced Tuesday. Mr. Parkinson, who was seventy- , was a gas engineer in business in City-road, was returned as a Progressive to the L.C.C. North Islington at the first election for that y, on which he retained his seat at the five ceeding elections.

s a member of the Theatre and Music Halls mmittee, Mr. Parkinson attracted considerable tion during the period when the action of s. Ormiston Chant had given great prominence the question of the conduct of music halls, and was defendant in an action brought against n in consequence of a speech reflecting upon exhibition of marionettes at the Westminster narium.

Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton l produce Miss Peggy Webling's successful y, "Westward Ho!" founded on Charles gsley's novel, at the Palladium in February. e play has been a pronounced success in South rica, and one awaits with curiosity the result its production in a variety theatre environ- ent.

Miss Victoria Monks is lying seriously ill in a g home in North-west London, suffering acute bronchitis. Miss Monks, who was o appear at the Wood Green Empire this was taken suddenly ill there on Monday , and Dr. Staunton was called. He advised to go to a nursing home, certifying that she suffering from acute bronchitis, and was un- to fulfil her professional duties. As a con- ence Miss Monks has had to cancel all her ic and private engagements for some time, ading a private party which was arranged to e place at her residence, Hillworth, Tulse Hill, New Year's Eve.

Lady de Bathe (Mrs. Langtry) has received condolences from friends in England on her "bad treatment in the States." She does not know what they mean. As a matter of fact, she is having such a successful tour that Martin Beck s asked her to prolong it till the end of March. er tour has not been without adventure. She struck" a lunatic in Pittsburg—a real lunatic ho had been twice in a private asylum. His nadness took the form of not wishing women's suffrage to be discussed in the theatre even in the burlesque manner; but as the popular actress got her salary just the same her spirits were not affected.

Mrs. Langtry writes (Dec. 15) that she is enjoying sleighing at Winnipeg, with fifty degrees of frost—"unseasonably warm, the natives say"—and packing the house with charming Canadians. "Hence we go to Regina, Calgary, and Edmonton (the highest point of the Canadian Pacific Railway), where I spend Christmas. Then Seattle, Spokane, Portland, and San Francisco, and California generally for six weeks to thaw out." We are asked to chronicle these doings to relieve Mrs. Langtry from being the object of pity to her friends in England. She is in love with Winnipeg. She is quite at home, too, at her hotel, for the bell-boy from Lancashire has the exploits of her racehorses quite pat, and there is a waiter from the Metropole, Brighton.

Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. Geo. Abel will present on Monday at the Islington Empire a revised version of Mr. Fred Bowyer's fine nautical sketch, "The Little Stowaway," immortalised by the late Miss Jenny Hill. The production, which will be on an elaborate scale, will include a mechanical scene of a ship at sea, and every effort will be made to secure a fine presentation of a historic playlet, so dramatically effective and so charged with humanity. As its dominant note is patriotism, it may prove a variety equivalent to the theatre "Drake." The new version has been written by Mr. Geo. Abel, in conjunction with Mr. Harry J. Robinson.

Mr. Bert Gilbert, a few weeks back, convulsed Coliseum audiences by a droll scena, in which rein was given to many funny inspirations. We can imagine him in pantomime, and envy Brum audiences who are enjoying his creation of Billy in the Prince of Wales pantomime, "Twinkle, Little Star." He has some splendid gags. "Do you know the Dewar-Dewars?" says Billy. "I do not," replies Margery (played by dainty Miss Ivy Ray); "is it a single name?" "No," says Billy, "there's a syphon between!" When are we to see Bert Gilbert at Drury Lane?

We have to record with regret the death of Mr. Stephen John Wingard, better known as Herr Wingard, the illusionist, who passed away at the age of 64 at about noon on Saturday last at his residence, 2, Bradford-road, Southsea. For over a year the deceased gentleman had been in ill-health, but he was able to fulfil engagements up to within a week of his death, which was caused by bronchitis. Many years ago Mr. Wingard held a position in the office of Mr. Greatorex, the then Southsea Borough Engineer, and he was for some time a draughtsman in the office of Messrs. Bramble Bros., contractors. About thirty years ago, however, he took up the profession of an illusionist, and had followed it ever since. He had had the honour of presenting his clever conjuring or illusionist feats not only before the late King, but also before their present Majesties, as well as before every other member of the Royal family and many foreign Royalties. He leaves a widow, two sons, and four daughters.

With the New Year Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux are inaugurating Saturday matinées at the Alhambra. The first of these will be to-day at 2.30.

John Lawson will remain a second week at Barrow-in-Furness Palace of Varieties, by permission of Brixton and Chelsea. Mr. Lawson has made a deep impression with his one-act plays.

The Alhambra Theatre of Varieties at Sandgate has recently changed hands. Messrs. Style and Winch, Ltd., have taken the hall over from the Ashford Breweries, Ltd., and the premises are now temporarily closed for renovations, etc.

Mr. F. Montague Barber, who has been so successfully running the Empire, Hednesford, Staffs, with a series of popular entertainments, including pictures, variety, and drama, has sold the house to Mr. R. A. Maddox, Marchfield Park-avenue, Worcester, who takes possession on Monday, Jan. 13. Mr. Montague is the late secretary of the Travelling Auctioneers' League, and is open to rent, purchase, or manage any amusement enterprise, where a life experience and capital would find the necessary scope.

Mr. H. Louis Wilson, formerly manager of the Palace de Luxe, Piccadilly, and of Drury Lane touring companies, has been appointed acting-manager at the Empire Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, in succession to Mr. C. Royce, who has been appointed acting-manager of the new Hippodrome to be opened at Aldershot next month.

Mr. A. J. Carter, the popular manager of the Bedminster (Bristol) Hippodrome, received a pleasant surprise this Christmas in the shape of a handsome silver card case, upon which was engraved the following:—"Presented by the University students to A. J. Carter, Esq., in recognition of his sporting conduct on the annual rag night, 1912." After the second performance on that night, it will be remembered, Mr. Carter placed the stage at the disposal of the students for the purposes of a smoking concert, and the presentation was a happy sequel to his action on that occasion.

A lady Hercules—Mlle. Katie Sandwina—will be seen at the Finsbury Park Empire on Monday next. Katie is possessed of the most extraordinary strength. She is 6ft. high and weighs 210lb. One of her most remarkable feats is that of lying face downwards on the ground, grasping an iron bar, and keeping her prone position while two great draught horses harnessed to her chest endeavour to drag her away.

Mr. Chris Van Bern is scoring heavily at the Palace, Stoke Newington, this week. At midnight on Tuesday he led off with Auld Lang Syne (by request of the management) and the refrain was heartily taken up by the audience. Mr. Van Bern has recently been initiated into the arcana of the Magic Circle.

Strong dramatic interest will be imparted to next week's fine programme at the Victoria Palace by the first appearance here of Guy Standing and company in "The Blackmailer." Claud M. Rood, a comedian on the high wire, will also make his first appearance in London.

It will be a true Masonic programme at the Edmonton Empire next week. Every male performer in the bill will belong to the craft, and every lady will be the wife or other relative of a member. The "brotherhood that binds" will, of course, completely disestablish the element of professional jealousy.

An original sketch, entitled "Padlock Domes," by Charles Leftwich, is due at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, W.C., on Tuesday next, at 8.30. As its name proclaims, Mr. Leftwich's piece is a skit on the methods of Conan Doyle's famous detective. The company responsible for the representation will include Hubert Woodward, Leslie Kyle, Wilfred S. Stanford, and Hebe Elsna, and the sketch will be produced by Mr. Leslie Kyle, in conjunction with the author. Several concert artistes will contribute to the evening's programme.

Dr. Walford Bodie is appearing this week and next at the Kinnaird Hall, Dundee, with his own company. The huge building has been packed at all performances, the genial doctor being a great favourite with Dundonians. Dr. Bodie submits his new and up-to-date sensational performance, introducing hypnotic and magnetic wonders, and also appears in his elaborate ventriloquial entertainment, "The Laird's Highland Party." He is supported by many clever artistes, including Mr. Albert Edward Bodie, who submits a society entertainment of a particularly clever and finished order. A popular and touching song, composed by Dr. Bodie, entitled "Heroes of the Titanic," receives full justice from that sweet singer, Miss Dolly Robson.

Miss May O'Connor, who is only fourteen years of age, has made a very successful appearance as a vocalist in the pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe" at the Shakespeare, Clapham. In a scene with Mr. Espinosa as Friday she sang "What's the reason, daddy?" and was loudly applauded. This young lady made her début at the Metropolitan, Edgware-road, only a few weeks ago.

One of the principal attractions at the Holborn Empire next week will be the appearance of Miss Doreen O'Connor in a laughable little playlet, entitled "The Future Lady Watteau." Miss O'Connor, a versatile little lady, has been all over the world on an extended tour with the Ellis Opera company in a répertoire of thirty-eight operas. During her travels she has met with many strange adventures, and one which lingers in her memory was the occasion when the Amir of Afghanistan witnessed the performance of "The Blue Moon" in Bombay, and was so charmed with Miss O'Connor that he expressed a very determined wish to buy her, but was politely told "She was not for sale." During the last tour of the Ellis Opera company, which extended over a period of 115 weeks, Miss O'Connor travelled over 93,000 miles in the interior of India.

At several of the Durham County police courts applications regarding the opening of picture palaces and similar places of entertainment on Christmas Day were refused by the magistrates, and this has caused much discontent amongst the proprietors. A powerful appeal was made to the Durham City Bench by Mr. W. H. Oliver on behalf of Mr. T. C. Rawes, proprietor of the Palace. Mr. Oliver pointed out that Christmas Day had come to be regarded as a day of pleasure and enjoyment, and that application was made in order that the general public might be granted some facilities to have some little festivities on Christmas night. In many towns in the county similar places of amusement would be open on that night. He had a list of places where picture halls and theatres would be open, which included Sunderland, Gateshead, Langley Moor, Spennymoor, Sacriston, Ushaw Moor, Waterhouses, Coxhoe, Chester-le-Street, and Stanley. That, remarked Mr. Oliver, was a good precedent for the bench to follow. After a consultation in private the chairman said the application would not be granted.

Mr. Charles Stafford has been appointed by the Official Receiver manager of the Camberwell Empire. Mr. Stafford has had considerable experience under Mr. George Dance.

Mr. Desmond Young has succeeded to the management of Chiswick Empire, vice Mr. Arthur J. Barclay. Mr. Albert Mitchell, who has now completely recovered from his operation, has been appointed to a position at the Stoll offices, his place as manager of the Middlesex being filled by Mr. Harry Garnham, who was manager of the Manchester Hippodrome Press department.

"Sunday Morning," an original one-act play, written by Stanley Cooke, will be produced on Monday at the Metropolitan. The theme of the piece is one dealing with a phase of Salvation Army life. The three characters will be played by Mr. Stanley Turnbull, Miss Irene Ross, and Miss Mary Forbes.

Messrs. A. Bernstein and Harry Bawn, of the Mile End Empire, have appointed as their manager for that hall Mr. Henry Godal, the well-known theatrical journalist. A novelty here this week before the play is the rendering of popular rag-time numbers in Yiddish, the "Rag-time violin" being sung successfully by Miss Eva Lowenwirth, the wife of a well-known Hebrew comedian.

My Fancy (Mrs. Harry Bawn) writes from Adelaide:—"Nov. 25. We are here in this lovely city, having a nice time, also beautiful weather and very hot—all the ladies in white muslin frocks and the gentlemen in light suits. Staying here about three weeks, then on to Melbourne. Best wishes."

Mr. George Abel, who is producing a revised version of "The Little Stowaway" on Monday next at the Islington Empire, was presented on Saturday last, by Mr. Albert Chevalier, with a splendid photograph of that famous comedian mounted in a silver frame of unique design, and inscribed: "To G. A., with best wishes from A. C."

Miss Clara Beck, at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has taken the fancy of the hardy Northerners in that most successful production, "Old King Cole," and her performance on the opening night so strongly appealed to Messrs. Howard and Wyndham that they immediately re-engaged her for next year—an exceedingly wise move. Such artistes as Miss Beck are scarce.

Fred Abrahams, one of the proprietors of the Queen's, Poplar, and a member of a numerous family of that name long identified with theatrical and music hall enterprises in the East-End of London, who died, at the advanced age of 90, on June 16 last, has left property valued at £6,094, the net personalty being £5,673. Like his brother Morris, who survives him, Fred was versatile. He could take a turn in the orchestra, or play a part on the stage. The testator leaves all his property to his widow, Mrs. Eva Abrahams, of 20, Selborne-road, Hove.

The "Performer Annual" has an interesting article by Mr. Albert Voyce, who in writing on the value of variety material says that "the artiste who is willing to pay five guineas for a number is as rare as the snow in June." It has often occurred to us that an arrangement might be made whereby in the case of a song-success a weekly royalty—based on the number of times the song is sung—might be paid to the librettist and composer during a stipulated period, the royalty not to interfere in any way with the existing rights or usual arrangements made by the firm who purchases for publication. We know that the comic who has struck oil with a number sometimes sends along a cheque for a bit extra—Dan Leno did so in more than one instance—but such a method of rewarding the writer is too precarious. Surely in these days of advanced vaudeville some better system than now obtains might be devised.

Miss Aggie Nolan, daughter of the late Michael Nolan, the composer and singer of the famous song, "Little Annie Rooney," who was one of the most versatile of Irish comedians, is the prepossessing understudy of Miss Maudie Mortimer, principal boy in the attractive Britannia Theatre pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast." As Perky Boy, the second principal boy part, Miss Nolan has scored a big success. She has much of the charm of her mother, the popular burlesque actress of the 'eighties known professionally as Miss Agnes Hazel, now unfortunately an invalid. Miss Nolan is booked on the principal tours until 1914.

Congratulations to Fred Higham—still quite a youngster—on his new title—that of grandfather. His daughter, Hilda, who was married early in the year, presented her husband, Mr. Sidney Allen, with a son and heir on the 30th ult. Both mother and boy are getting on famously.

Among the names in the cast of "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" we note that of Charles Denier Warren. The young actor is the son of Charley Warren, of Witmark's, and a Past King Rat, himself a good comedian, and the lamented Marguerite Fish. The junior Warren, when a youngster, supported his famous mother in a Japanese scena produced at the Oxford, and for a time represented this journal on the variety side in Paris.

Talking of a Past King Rat reminds us that Mr. Charles Austin is to be elected to the coveted position of King Rat for the second year. The honour is certainly a rare one. The other officers for 1913 are: Prince Rat, W. Bankier (Apollo); Scribe Rat, Mr. H. McCarthy (ninth year); Bank Rat, Edwin Brown; Test Rat, Dave Carter; Musical Rat, Alf. Leonard; Collecting Rat, Billy Brown; Bait Rat, Arthur E. Godfrey; and Trustees, J. W. Cragg, P.K.R., and Edwin Brown, B.R.

"Red 'Ria," a one-act play of East-End life, by Gertrude and Jack Landa, which was produced with great success by Miss Horniman at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, is to be staged at the Tivoli on January 13, with Miss Edyth Goodall in the title-rôle. Miss Goodall, it will be remembered, scored a triumph as Fanny in "Hindle Wakes" at the Playhouse; and "Red 'Ria," in which she achieved a conspicuous success at Manchester, will give Londoners an opportunity of seeing this clever actress in a Cockney character.

Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux, in conjunction with Mr. George Grossmith, are actively preparing an entirely new scene for the successful revue, "Kill That Fly," which is subject as a production to a process of constant change, without in any way robbing it of one iota of its brilliance. Considerable attention is also being paid to the items preceding the revue, and among the newcomers on Monday will be Democritus, a cartoonist, who promises a novel exposition of sketching; the Six Victorias, exceptionally graceful and skilful cyclists; and Tack, an acrobat with a pronounced sense of humour. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco will continue to amuse and amaze patrons.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution.

There were merry doings at "Brinsworth" on Christmas Day, and the old performers resting there had a most happy time. They were honoured with a visit from Joe Elvin, Eugene Stratton, and Jack Lotto ("Elvin's Treble"), who arrived just after dinner and passed an hour in mirth and jollity. Good old Joe and Mrs. Elvin called on Christmas Eve and left a large hamper of luxuries. Miss Okey, the matron, and the staff did all they could to give the inmates pleasure, and succeeded entirely.

The Committee sincerely thank the following kind donors for their generous Christmas gifts:—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, a large Christmas pudding, Christmas cake, fifteen fancy tins of biscuits (one for each inmate), and a box of cigars; Miss Marie Lloyd, a case of port wine; Music Hall Ladies' Guild, two parcels of underclothing; Mrs. Jack Pleasants, joint of beef, nuts, tea, shortbread, and plum pudding; "Anon.," box of three walnut cakes and three chocolate cakes; Mrs. Griffiths, cheque for £1 1s.; Morny Cash, cheque for £1 1s.; Fred Kitchen, cheque for 10s. 6d.; John Lawson, cheque for 10s. 6d.; from the "Cinderella" Boys at the Middlesex Theatre, 4s.; Mr. Mark Higgins of the Australian McLeans is sincerely thanked by the Committee for acceptable present of men's suits.

The Beneficent Order of Terriers.

Immediate application should be made to the Secretary, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., for tickets for the banquet to be held on Sunday (to-morrow) at the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, at 5.30 p.m. sharp. All members of the above Order are asked to support this function, or to attend the concert at 8.30 p.m. A feature of the evening will be the first appearance of the "Thickan-thinun" Quartette, who will produce a new and original Terriers' topical song, entitled "The whine of the watch dogs."

Terrier Dan Robans has been appointed musical-director, and Mr. Horace Bernard will be the accompanist.

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Will Cody acted as W.T., Terrier Harry Falls as V.T., Terrier H. M. Darsie as W.D., and Terrier Syd Baker as Y.B.

The election of officers for January resulted as follows:—W.T., Terrier Will Cody; V.T., Terrier Harry Falls; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were. Applications for membership have been received from Messrs. Tom E. Dean, Mark Newhouse, Richard H. Ward (Newhouse and Ward), and John Wright Aitken.

The following candidates have successfully passed the ballot:—Jack Shevill, John Bernard Dudley, Charles Cranston, and A. C. Astor. Terrier Harry Nelson is leaving for South Africa on Saturday next, and will be pleased to see Terriers at Waterloo Station at 11 a.m. Terrier Willie Benn will be pleased to hear from Terriers with immediate vacant dates.

Music Hall Home.

The Secretary acknowledges box collections as follows:—Mrs. Lawson, Empire, Camberwell, 7s.; Hammersmith Palace, 1s. 1d.; Granville, Walham Green, 15s. 9d. Also donations from J. E. Dunedin, 10s.; H. Cory Woodrow, 2s.

The inmates of the home spent a most enjoyable Christmas, festivities being kept up until a late hour. Cordial thanks are tendered to the undermentioned for acceptable gifts of good Christmas cheer:—Miss Kitty Colyer, Mr. Joe Elvin, Mrs. Smythe, Mr. and Mrs. Viulleumier, Mr. W. R. Dunkley, Mr. Harry Barnard, Mr. Tom Branson (Hastings), Mrs. Ernest Collins, Mr. Arthur Were, Mr. Tom Packer, Mr. Russell Brandow, Mr. A. Van Raalte, and Mr. Harry Vento.

The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 3, at the Three Stags, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at 3.30 p.m.

THE OLD PROS' DINNER.

The Old Folks' dinner (the fourth annual) was held at the Institution on Tuesday afternoon (New Year's Eve), and was quite as successful as any of its forerunners. A party of between twenty and thirty travelled down by the 11.30 express from Waterloo to Twickenham, the L. and S.W. Railway (through Mr. J. L. Barrow, the Music Hall representative) kindly placing a saloon carriage at the disposal of the party. On arrival omnibuses conveyed the party to "Brinsworth," and at 1.30 dinner was served to over forty old performers and a few friends. Before commencing the feeding, two photographs were taken for the Press. A very excellent dinner of seven courses was served, everything being cooked by the staff at the Institution, and, after a brief interval, a very enjoyable concert was given, a noticeable feature being the items by "stars" of a past generation. The following was the programme:—John Holmes, solo on the bones; Billy West, banjo song; Mrs. Arthur Were, recitation, "The women of Mumble's Head"; Harry Blake, "The Christmas Party"; "Tally Ho!" Smith, song, "Tally Ho!"; Charles Coborn, "Another kind love"; Mrs. Gibbons, song and dance; Ralph Edgar (the old chairman of the Standard), "A happy New Year"; Fred Harrington, "A chorus song"; Harry Sutch, "The village blacksmith"; Miss M. Okey, "Jack's the boy," and an encore; T. C. Callaghan, "Oh, what a lovely dream!"; Charles Coborn, "Two lovely black eyes"; Charles Cornish, "The preacher and the bear"; and "Auld lang syne."

Mr. Harry Blake, Hon. Treasurer of the Fund and Institution, presided until he had to leave for town, after which Mr. Coborn occupied the chair. During the afternoon several toasts were proposed and responded to, among them being: "The Founder, Joe Elvin and Mrs. Elvin," "The Matron and Inmates of the Institution," "The Chairman, Mr. Harry Blake, and the Secretary, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart," and "Mr. Charles Coborn." Among the visitors present were Mrs. Sanders, the former matron, Lieut. Albini, Mr. J. E. Donegan (Dunedin Troupe), and Mrs. Douglas Stuart. A happy afternoon ended by the arrival of the omnibuses at 6 o'clock, and by 7 the old folk were safe back in London.

The following telegrams were received during the concert, and the kind sentiments expressed were warmly applauded:—"Regret unable to be with you to-day. All good wishes for a happy New Year.—Joe Elvin." "God bless you all. Happy and healthy 1913. Sorry not with you.—Chris. Van-Bern," and Syd. Lee ("Encore"), and a letter from Mr. Albert Voyce (Chairman) of the Committee), "My sincere good wishes for an enjoyable time to all concerned." Mr. J. Uccelli, of the Boulogne Restaurant, again generously sent a New Year's present of ices and wine.

We have had many combinations of trained animals, but one of the most interesting that we have witnessed is that appearing as a special attraction at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow. Two zebras—animals that are notoriously difficult to train—two great Danes, one horse, and an elephant take the stage. Every animal shows great docility in the accomplishment of its various tricks. The horse does a clever haut école act, and the amiability of the troupe is delightful to witness. Cornadini's animals should speedily secure a share of contracts.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

The following artistes, booked through Will Collins and Co., are leaving to fulfil engagements: The Wester Brothers, sailing on Jan. 4 per the R.M.S. Briton, for the Hyman tour in South Africa; and the Heraldos, sailing on Jan. 17 per the Friederich der Grosse, for the Brennan-Fuller Circuit, Australia.

In the course of a conversation which the writer had with Little Tich at the Palladium, on Thursday evening, the popular comedian intimated that he had no further engagements with the Syndicate Halls. After the completion of his engagement at the Palladium—some weeks hence—he will play a few of the more important halls controlled by the London Theatres of Variety. The last occasion he worked this tour was four years ago.

Mr. David Hart, the well-known dramatic variety agent, who has for the past six months been unable to attend his offices at 18, Charing Cross-road, through a breakdown in health from overwork, has now happily recovered, and after a recuperative visit to Bournemouth, is once again at his desk. During Mr. Hart's absence his son, Mr. Sydney S. Hart, has worthily filled his father's place. Mr. Hart, sen., is leaving town shortly for a lengthy booking tour in the provinces.

Managers looking for an attraction will do well to see the performance of Angus and Argus during the week of Jan. 6 at the Empire, Edmonton. This is an amalgamation of the most varied talent. Instrumental music, quick changes, and impersonations are the principal features. No expense has been spared in the mounting of the speciality.

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In addition to the Webster Brothers, the artistes sailing from Southampton to-day (Saturday) by the Briton for South Africa, to fulfil Hyman engagements at the Empire, Johannesburg, are Tom Clare, Harry Nelson, Ruth Davenport, and Grassi Bros.

Mr. Rufe Naylor, of the World's Variety Agency, is at present staying at the Old Ship Hotel, Edinburgh, and is busy booking Scotch acts for Africa's Amalgamated Theatres and London houses.

The Jackowlew Trio, Siberian dancers and vocalists, and Hill and Ackerman, the great American acrobatic act, have been booked by Rufe Naylor's Agency for the African tour.

The Sisters Gilbert, also Larry Lewis and Violet Stockelle, sailed by the R.M.S. Kenilworth Castle last Saturday to play the Africa's Amalgamated Theatres Circuit, and Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Palo and Sellery and Charles Erard for the same tour this week.

Mr. Rufe Naylor will shortly open a branch of his agency in Berlin, and he will also visit America about May next in search of acts for English and Colonial tours.

Owing to an absentee from the Palladium bill, Guy and Grahame played an extra turn there on Wednesday evening. This delightfully droll duo, who are playing the Holborn this week with their usual success, are shortly paying a professional visit to South Africa, after which they will return to fulfil the numerous important tours which Harry Day's Agency has arranged on their behalf.

Mr. A. Braff, the well-known international variety agent, sailed on Boxing Day by the Oceanic on a business visit to New York.

Booked by their agency, Will Collins and Co. announce that Conrad and Whidden, an American rag-time musical act, will make their first appearance this side next week at the Alhambra, Glasgow.

"Their Point of View," which is alleged to be one of the "quaintest and most humorous sketches that has ever been seen," is to be presented by Mr. Charles Gulliver at the Palladium on Monday.

In the strong programme at that house during the week, Miss Evie Greene's sweet singing has been listened to in hushed silence by vast crowds. English ballad vocalists have a cachet of their own; and the delicacy of interpretation, the piquant comedy, and the perfection of vocal tone make Miss Greene's singing a thing to enjoy with full hearing. It is as delightful as her comedy is exhilarating. Her extensive répertoire ranges from the undying ballads of yester year, such as Michael W. Balfe's setting of "Believe me if all those endearing young charms" to the latest lilts of Bennett Scott. Every taste is, therefore, studied, with the result that the success of the singer is unquestionable and complete.

Miss Dolly Harmer, the clever comedienne, who always reminds us so much of Nelly Farren, is making hosts of friends among audiences at the Gaiety, Dublin. Her song, "Oh! Mary!" is a palpable hit.

The Brighton Hippodrome on Monday were face to face with a difficulty, but it was soon solved by the engagement of Frederick Melville's novelty, "Motogirl," who was rushed on as deputy at the last moment, and scored an instant success.

On New Year's Eve, at the Coliseum, many of the audience remained and joined in a welcome to "1913," in which the Sheffield Choir played the part of principal vocalists. The singing was impressive, fervent, and enthusiastic.

The monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund Committee will be held on Wednesday afternoon next at the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road.

"Pearls," the new one-act play by Mr. Stanley Houghton, the clever young playwright, whose piece, "The Younger Generation," is running successfully at the Haymarket, is to be produced at the Coliseum on Monday. It has had a preliminary trial at the Glasgow Pavilion. We are informed that it is a model of construction, and just exactly what a short play should be. Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who will produce and play in it, will be seen later at the Coliseum in Alfred Sutro's "A Marriage Has Been Arranged."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

The general success of Messrs. Feldman's publications in pantomimes throughout the length and breadth of the country is simply phenomenal. It is no exaggeration to say that they form the leading features of every production. "In the garden of my heart," "Alexander's Rag-time Band," "Everybody's doing it," "Take me back to the garden of love," "I want to be in Dixie," "Oh! you beautiful doll," "The Gaby Glide," "The rag-time violin," "That mysterious rag," "Fiddle dee-dee," "Who were you with last night?" "There's a girl in Havana," "It's a long way to Tipperary," "Yesterday you called me sweetheart" are some of the numbers emanating from this up-to-date publishing house, which have deluged the kingdom. Space precludes mention of every pantomime, but a few may be noted.

The Birmingham pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," can only be termed magnificent, and Messrs. Feldman's publications reign supreme. Miss Ray Ford makes a charming principal girl. Her singing is delightful, and she also dances to perfection. Miss Ford sings no less than three Feldman numbers, viz., "I want to be in Dixie," "Who were you with last night?" and "I wish you belonged to me," the choruses of which are taken up by the audience with great enthusiasm. Miss Myra Hammon makes a handsome and stately principal boy, and scores an undoubted success. Her songs, "Take me back to the garden of love" and "There's a girl in Havana," are rendered beautifully.

Inhabitants of Stoke-on-Trent are very properly delighted with their annual presented at the Hippodrome by Mr. Arthur Carlton. "Robinson Crusoe" is the subject, and Miss Lallah Davies fills the title-rôle to perfection. Her songs, "Alexander's Rag-time Band" and "Who were you with last night?" score in a most decisive fashion. Miss Ida Dorne as Polly sings "It's a long way to Tipperary" in a captivating manner. The Good Fairy, in the person of Miss Bostock, sings "Take me back to the garden of love" in splendid fashion, and makes an undoubted hit; while Miss Queenie West as Princess of the Cannibals sings "On Moonlight Bay" with great success.

At Hastings fine fare is provided in "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," by Messrs. Cowen and Bowes. Miss Emmie King sings "Take me back to the garden of love" and "It's a long way to Tipperary" with tremendous success. Miss King's performance is delightful, while her singing and dancing are deserving of every praise. The concerted numbers featured in the production include "Alexander's Rag-time Band," "Everybody's doing it," "Who were you with last night?"

At the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, "Goody Two Shoes" is the delight of its patrons. Miss Nellie Wigley, the principal boy, cannot be too highly praised, and has a brace of strong numbers in "Who were you with last night?" and "That mysterious rag," which prove extremely successful. The charming principal girl, Miss Maie Ash, renders "I want to be in Dixie" and "Oh! you beautiful doll" in inimitable style.

A hearty welcome was given to "Red Riding Hood" at the Grand, Brighton, on its initial performance, and it continues to run as smoothly as ever. Miss Louie Beckman fills the part of Boy Blue to perfection. Her polished rendering of "Take me back to the garden of love" and "I want to be in Dixie" prove tremendously successful. Miss Vi Hartley as Tommy Tucker and Miss Lilly Hartly as Miss Muffet dance cleverly, and score decisively in the duet, "That mysterious rag."

Like all Mr. Bannister Howard's productions, "Robinson Crusoe," at the Opera House, Cheltenham, will satisfy the most fastidious. Mr. Teddy Carlton as Will Atkins surpasses even himself, and proves an invaluable factor to the production. He is a comedian possessing originality, and his entertainment is highly meritorious. His duet, "The Gaby Glide," with Miss Jean Allistone, the principal girl, is worth making a long journey to witness.

A first-class pantomime is "Dick Whittington," produced by Messrs. Day and Lauri at Nottingham. Among the many Feldman numbers sung special mention must be made of "I want to be in Dixie," which creates a veritable furore as sung by Miss Dorothy Royal. Miss Royal has a taking presence, and scores a decided hit with this contagious song.

An excellent act is presented by Shaw and Rayne, American vaudeville entertainers, at the Surrey this week, where they are meeting with well-deserved success. Their dancing deserves special praise, while their rendering of "I want to be in Dixie" and "The Gaby Glide" was loudly applauded.

A personal visit to the Britannia the other evening disclosed a house packed to suffocation to witness Mr. Morton Powell's beautiful fairy pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast," which consists almost entirely of hits from the Arthur-street firm. Here the charming Maude Mortimer portrays the principal boy. Her songs are selected from the Feldman repertoire, but it is in "Who were you with last night?" "Alexander's rag-time band," "It's a long way to Tipperary," or "Oh, you beautiful doll" (in the latter assisted by Miss Rosie Dane), Miss Mortimer scores an artistic triumph. Her admirers will be delighted to learn of her unequivocal triumph. The other artistes featuring Feldman songs are Barrett and Knowles, Mrs. Victor's Juveniles, and Mr. Jack Snow, the latter of whom creates an immense success with the season's artistic ballad hit, "Take me back to the garden of love."

Messrs. A. C. Buchanan and Fred J. Little are holding the stage at the Metropolitan with their spectacular pantomime of "Sinbad the Sailor," with the charming Ethel Ra Leslie in the name part. Her success with Feldman songs is electrical, but it is not to be wondered at considering that her selections are made exclusively from the teeming catalogue of the Arthur-street house. The three choice items which she features are "Alexander's rag-time band," "That mysterious rag," and "There's a girl in Havana." In the same pantomime Miss Mildred Parr makes a big hit in Feldman's "Oh, you beautiful doll" and "Rum tum tiddle," and Messrs. Keir and Kempton go tremendously in "Take me back to the garden of love" and "I want to be in Dixie."

With the advent of each New Year comes the usual shoal of good resolutions, some of which, no doubt, will be observed both in the letter and the spirit, while the keeping of others will be found so irksome that, after some chafing under the bonds, we throw the good resolution to the winds and go on as if the idea of amendment had never got a lodgment in our craniums. Amongst the multitude there are bound to be failures, and this is only to be expected where the material is not of the right kind. But, given the right article, with the energy and ability and resolution to back it up and carry it to the highest point, there need be no place found in our lexicon for such a word as "failure." For the year we have just entered upon, amongst the best resolves that our variety artistes can make is that which has brought much grist to the mill of many a one in the year 1912, and which is certain to have a greater boom in 1913, namely, the adoption of syncopated music in our programmes. And when we refer to the rag-time craze, which has laid the country captive at its feet, we must qualify it by asserting that good rag-time is essential, and to procure that, artistes must get the Feldman brand, which in every instance has proved highly successful, and owing to which many artistes to-day are suffering from the rather tolerable complaint of embarrassment of riches and plethoric offers of engagements.

The foolish ones have now seen the error of their ways, and are clamouring and supplicating to be numbered among the elect during the year that was ushered in three days ago. The artistes who made such a mitake have taken advantage of the incoming of 1913 to turn over a new leaf of their life-book, and to inscribe on the virgin page their resolve for the future to patronise none but Feldman's money-making and fame-compelling productions. In consonance with what we have written in a previous paragraph of these notes, this is a thoroughly "good resolution" to make, and we have no fear that such a resolve will not be carried through with a determination to succeed which brooks no obstacles in the way until the crowning glory of achieved success is attained.

"What is the most popular pantomime ditty?" was the task which our contemporary, the "Star," recently set itself to discover, by offering a prize to the winner. From what we have written, it will be easily guessed that the successful song bore the imprint of the house of Feldman; but it was not for one of their rag-time sensations, it was for the great comedy chorus featured so splendidly by Mr. Mark Sheridan, "Who were you with last night?" and written by Fred Godfrey and the versatile Mark. Our readers will recollect that this is one of the songs the Feldman firm has been steadily designating as one of the biggest pantomime plums. Any production that is minus the song at the moment should hesitate no longer about its introduction. Certain success is assured by its addition and adoption; and principal boys and comedians whose present songs require crutches to support them in anything approaching a perpendicular position ought to take the lesson to heart and at once secure Feldman's rousing Mark Sheridan Christmas carol.

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"CINDERELLA" AT THE CHELSEA PALACE.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's fine production is this week drawing splendid houses to the cosy Palace in King's-road. Rich in comedians and sweet songsters, reinforced by a capable chorus, and some novel turns, there is every reason to anticipate a hearty welcome for the pantomime "on tour." It should be mentioned that the beautiful scenery has been entirely made at Wentworth Croke's Lyric Studios, and Mr. T. Filbeam and his clever confrères are to be congratulated on the effective sets.

Cinderella's song, "I want to be at home in Dixie land," as rendered by Miss Lily Arthur, was loudly redemanded, and the same clever little lady very sweetly sang "Nobody loves me"; while Miss Clara Moore's fine voice, in "Who were you with last night?" was heard to every advantage. Mr. Tom E. Sloan as Bobbie, the Baron's page, has some capital songs, in which he makes a hit, notably "What's the matter with father?" The choruses were especially good. Mr. Wentworth Croke has evidently made a feature of this. Miss Edna Deno (Dandini), Mr. George Rance (Baron Hasbeen), and Bert Morley (Baroness), aid in the fun-making; while the Brothers Obo, as the "cruel" sisters of Cinderella, would provoke laughter from a pessimist. Miss Fanny Bass sang pleasantly and acted vivaciously as the Fairy Godmother; Miss Amy Wright (Lord Euston) and Miss Beatrice Howard (Lady Maud Euston) display talent in their respective rôles. The specialities by Willie Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls proved highly acceptable.

Next week the final pantomime of the season will be given, the management presenting Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri's company in "Whittington and His Cat."

Mark Sheridan, who is this week making his first appearance at the Palace, Southampton, is scoring all along the line. He sings, in his own breezy style, "Colonel Nutt," "By the seaside," "If the world was turned upside down," and one of Feldman's latest novelties, "Who were you with last night?" which is already being whistled all over the southern seaport. The engagement of the genial Mark is bringing grist to the Palace, for the building is packed out at every performance. A very good start for the New Year, and Mr. Murray tells us he has more stars coming along shortly.

Sheriff Fyfe, in the Glasgow Sheriff Court, last week, disposed of an application for interim interdict made by Moss' Empires, Ltd., against Miss Lottie Lennox, variety artiste, who was appearing at the Olympia Music Hall, Bridgeton. The application for interim interdict was claimed on the ground that defender was under contract to appear at the Glasgow Empire in April, and one of the conditions of the contract was that she was not to perform in Glasgow for a period of fifteen months prior to the date of the engagement. Mr. David Cook, who appeared for Miss Lennox, said that his client had given up an engagement at Walsall to oblige pursuers, and she thought she was doing no harm if she accepted a week's engagement at the Olympia for the week lost at Walsall. Sheriff Fyfe said he did not approve of these interdicts at all. Why did pursuers not bring an action of damages? Mr. Cook: They could not get a penny of damages. The Sheriff refused interim interdict.

We regret to read in the "Performer" that Fred Williams has met with serious losses through unfortunate business investment. In the eighties and nineties Fred played, in conjunction with the late Charles Stevens, in potted versions of pantomime, and one remembers his Widow Twankey with a great deal of pleasure. He is brother of Arthur Williams—still capable of holding his own with the modern funny men—and uncle of young Jack Williams and Fred Emney, the comedian in "A Sister to Assist 'Er."

The Imperial Palace, Canning Town, has taken a new lease of life, and with the advent of the New Year starts under entirely new management. From an announcement which appeared in "The Era" a fortnight ago, one could conclude that changes were on the tapis, and in view of the enterprising policy which the present management intend to follow, there should be an early return of those bygone and prosperous days when the old Royal Albert Music Hall, as it then was called, was universally admitted as being among the first of the variety theatres in the eastern area of the metropolis. The new régime was inaugurated last week, when the principal attraction consisted of John Lawson's company in "Humanity." Mr. Wallie Rice, late of the Greenwich Hippodrome, has been appointed managing-director of the new company, which is named "The I.P. Co., Ltd.," an abbreviation of the name of the hall. Mr. G. W. Coe has been entrusted with the reins of general-managership. Mr. Coe was for some years at Dartford with Mr. Dan Barnard, while he has further filled important positions in the provinces for Messrs. Ruffell and Co. The forthcoming attractions include many good dramas and a pantomime. A notice of this week's programme will appear in the "Wednesday Era."

THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.

A week after pantomime commences in serious earnest the weeding-out process begins. The manager and producer who hitherto turned lenient ears to the silvery wiles of principal boy or music publisher, now, with rapine in his heart and a blue pencil in his hand, ruthlessly eliminates all the "won't goers" in his production and substitutes the "real goods" which the meretricious counterfeits originally ousted from their legitimate places. They who did not include the Star Co.'s "wonder song," "My heart is with you to-night," in the scheme of things as applied to their pantomimes have in nearly every instance made ample amends by sending post-haste for the band parts and introducing this glorious ballad since the tale of its superlative merits has been bruited abroad. A glance at the Star Co.'s advertised list of fore-front pantomime favourites, all of whom are specially featuring this delightful song of the affections, irrefragably proves that "My heart is with you to-night" has outstripped all competitors as emphatically the premier ballad success of the present pantomime season. Miss Ada Thomas, the bewitching principal girl at the Kennington Theatre, produced this ballad for the first time on Tuesday last in the South Pole scene of "Aladdin," and won such vociferous applause from her delighted auditors that this number will now remain a permanency in Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton's delightful pantomime.

Miss Dorothy Ward continues to make the big outstanding hit of the Court, Liverpool, pantomime with "My heart is with you to-night," the Star Co.'s "wonder song," which never fails to elicit triple encores from all in front of the house This is, as Miss Ward herself declares, the greatest song success with which she has ever been associated. Miss Ward's husband, Mr. Shaun Glenville, principal comedian in the same pantomime, also brings down the house at every performance with the Star's other stormer, "They all walk the wibbly wobbly walk."

In the case of the Star Co.'s great "picture" number, "Little shepherdess of Devon," also, pantomime producers who have become cognisant of its great success all over the country are now with avidity including it in their pantomimes. Miss Daisy Bindley, the charming principal girl at the Lyceum, now specially features this delightful number in Messrs. Walter and Fred Melville's successful pantomime at this popular West End house with the most consummate success.

Miss Lily Morris, the dashing principal boy in Mr. Fred Warden's Shakespeare, Liverpool, pantomime, is making a really wonderful success with the Star Co.'s great Irish number, "Patricia," which she sings surrounded by dainty little ones in characteristic costumes. Encore after encore greets this charming singer for her most delightful rendering not only of this, but her other great Star success, "Mister Cupid," of which Miss Morris has to sing verses innumerable ere her delighted auditors reluctantly allow their favourite to bow her acknowledgments and depart.

The pantomime vogue of Mr. Whit Cunliffe's "Mister Cupid" is enormous. Not only is it specially featured by the previously mentioned star artiste, but also (both in town and country) by such great artistes as Mesdames Daisy Wood, Clara Beck, Cressie Leonard, Venie Clements, Daisy James, Cissie Thompson, Katie Marsh, Ellaline Thorne, Connie Emerald, Ruth Lytton, Meg Hamilton, May Poulton, Rosa Bartlett, Mollie Hackett, Messrs. Phil Parsons, Fred Hastings, Herbert St. John, Sam Walsh, William Pa[illegible]ng, and many others.

Miss Nora Delaney makes one of the greatest successes in the Kennington pantomime with her altogether delightful and original manner of singing the Star Co's great comedy chorus song, "Woolloomooloo" (usually associated with barons, dames, and other low comedians peculiar to pantomime), and many encores reward her for her efforts with this quaint, tongue-twisting morceau. Many other pantomime artistes have been brilliantly successful with this number, among whom may be mentioned the following:—Jack Mackenzie, Arthur Wellesley, Shaun Desmond, Johnny Osborne, Maitland Marler, Reginald Switz, E. Goodfellow, Harry Russell, Leo Fields, Louis Holt, Austen Lenton, and Herbert Williams, to mention only a few names.

Most brilliant is the success achieved by Miss Ouida Macdermott in the King's, Sunderland, pantomime with the Star Co.'s great chorus song, "They all walk the wibbly wobbly walk" (first launched on the sea of popularity by Mr. Mark Sheridan), and other fine exponents of this dashing number are found in Mesdames Winifred Ward, Dess Desborough, Rosa Bartlett, Florence Imeson, and Messrs. Willie Atom, Ernest Hammerstein, Billy Waldron, Tom Collins, Bobbie Walker, George Payne, Tom Hulme, Leo Fields, Maitland Marler, Barney Armstrong, Herbert St. John, Scott-Barrie, Kenna Lawson, W. A. Haines, Byron, Crosby and Manger, and, of course, Mr. Dan Whitley, who first introduced it to pantomime at the Princess's, Glasgow, and many others.

Our contemporary, the "Daily Telegraph," in a notice of the Fulham Theatre pantomime, says: "The principal girl, Jill, is Miss Gertrude Orchard. In the pretty scena where she sings 'Little shepherdess of Devon' surrounded by her maidens in gala attire, Miss Orchard is perhaps at her best." Other prominent pantomime artistes who are singing this delightful number are Mesdames Elise Malpass, Valerie Valletort, Ruby Emmerson, the Sisters Bartholomew, the Sisters Cora, Maud Esmond, Rose Wylie, Kitty Rafferty, Cicely Gray, Ollie Dennie, Lilian Fenn, Dickie Dunn, Ina Thornton, Nancy Benyon, Eva Godfrey, Nellie Gallafent, Lizzie Primmer, Queenie Mayer, Iris Dene, Violet Russell, Maudie Olmar, Maudie Francis, Jose Leyton, and a host of others.

Delightful indeed is the manner in which winsome Miss Roma June, the Marlborough Theatre's principal girl, sings the Star's great syncopated love song, "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," and she is wildly applauded by her entranced hearers. Other pantomime artistes who make this one of their principal numbers are Mesdames Nan C. Hearne, Madge Crichton, Nora Delaney, Ada Thomas, Lily Iris, Maudie Vera, Kathleen Grey, Vi Laurie, Norah Neville, Lalah Davis, Freda Danilo, Isa Gibson, Violet Lloyd, Ruby Roya, Jenny Reeve, Mollie Sayers, Gertie Douglas, Alice Wyatt, Susie Belmore, Florrie Curette, Elsie Fowler, Nellie Jones, and Messrs. W. H. Wright, Osmond Antipon, &c.

Dashing Miss Esta Stella makes a phenomenal hit at the Broadway, New Cross, with Mr. Whit Cunliffe's record winner, "Paree," which wins many encores, as it does also in other pantomimes, as sung by Mesdames Connie Emerald, Lence Lorelle, Gypsie Hodgson, Nell Emerald, Nan Taylor, and Messrs. Phil Parsons, Bert Castle, Dave Laird, and other performers all over the country.

Miss May Lilian Levey, writing from the Alhambra, Openshaw, to the Star Co., says:—"You will be pleased to hear that 'Patricia' went bigger than any Irish song I have sung, not excepting 'Bedelia.' Candidly, I thought it would be a nice opening number, and was agreeably surprised at it turning out a really big winner at all three performances here yesterday."

GENEE IN NEW YORK.

From New York exchanges we learn that Adeline Genée, the impresario, is almost as much of a success as Adeline Genée the dancer. She is filling the Metropolitan Opera House with large audiences, the attraction being the production of a ballet suite, "La Danse," in which Lalli Boccherini and Gluck's delightful music was wedded to gavotte, minuet, and chaconne. At the Coliseum she appeared in La Camargo; in New York she incarnates other celebrated dancers.

"It was in the gavotte," says "The New York Sun," "from Gluck's 'Paris and Helen,' in which Mme. Genée was La Guimard, that her posing was at its best. Mme. Genée as soon as the leaves parted to disclose her in the elaborate costume of the eighteenth century, showed how completely she could express the character of this haughty beauty who was so beloved by the aristocracy of Paris just before the Revolution that she was able to compel the court to change the date of its functions if they interfered with her own levees.

"This imperious beauty trod in the person of Adeline Genée with wonderful virtuosity through her steps. Other dances showed Mme. Genée as Marie La Salle and as Maria Taglioni, the latter in the ballet prepared for her to the music of Chopin, dancing a Tyrolean as well as a Johann Strauss waltz later to show the development of that form." She is assisted by M. Volinin, who was seen over here in a short divertissement at the Empire with Lydia Kyasht.

"Mme. Genée has never danced with such virtuosity nor with such personal charm. Then her sense of characterisation was never displayed before these performances at the Metropolitan Opera House. They have been in this respect an explanation of the great vogue she enjoyed in London. Until she put New York under such obligations for these ballets, which are accompanied with exquisite dress and tasteful scenic accessories, Mme. Genée had never really displayed her finest qualities as a dancer."

"THE NEW GUN."

A Patriotic Episode, by Miss Rosemary Rees Produced last week at the Camberwell Empire.

Jack Trenwith .....Mr. Cyril Griffiths
Winter ..... Mr. Leyton Cancellor
Nance Trenwith ..... Miss Rosemary Rees

The great importance of carefully preserving the secret of any new English invention for the purpose of war is clearly shown in this highly interesting and instructive playlet.

Jack Trenwith has thought out an idea for a new gun which will possibly revolutionise warfare, and, being called away from home on important business, he leaves the model in his wife's charge, with strict instructions for her to guard his secret at all costs. No sooner has he left than Winter, a German spy, enters. He says he has come from headquarters to convey the model back with him. Mrs. Trenwith being naturally suspicious of all strangers, questions him as to which way he came. He could not have entered by the front door or he would have surely met her husband. Being ready for the occasion, he tells the wife that he came in by the side gate after having crossed the fields for quickness. However, as the side gate has been kept securely locked, and as the stranger's boots are covered thickly with dust, it seems to Mrs. Trenwith that he is not exactly adhering to the truth. In order to verify her belief, she asks the stranger if he has brought any message from the Colonel's wife. He replies "yes"; but as the Colonel has no wife he finds himself still deeper in the mire. Finding civil and ordinary methods of no avail, he draws a revolver and threatens to shoot if the model is not at once forthcoming. At this moment the husband returns, and a struggle for supremacy ensues. Shots are fired, and the spy falls dead; not murdered, but killed as an act of justice to England.

Miss Rosemary Rees has thought out a neat little plot round which her story is cleverly written. She plays the rôle of Nance Trenwith, the wife, in a manner worthy of warm praise. Mr. Cyril Griffiths carefully portrays the inventor, Jack Trenwith, whilst Mr. Leyton Cancellor enacts the rôle of Winter, the spy, with much power and ability. The piece is a great success, and deserves a long run.

"A MATRIMONIAL ERROR."

Comedy Sketch, by Miss May Shepherd, Played for the First Time at the Ruskin Manor Recreation Hall, Denmark-hill, S.E., on Boxing Day.

Reggie Waring .....Mr. Fred Humphreys
Nita Waring .....Miss May Shepherd
Manservant .....Mr. S. H. Ellis

Gratifying success attended the first performance of this really funny piece. Miss May Shepherd, the authoress, has secured a novel plot, which she has written in a most suitable manner. The story is a simple one, but is nevertheless full of interest, and holds the attention of the audiences throughout. At the opening Reggie Waring and his wife Nita are quarrelling, not for the first time by any means, but, by his wife's desire, for the last. She determines to leave her husband, for, according to her theory, life with him is unbearable. Consequently she goes away, and for two months they live apart, each satisfied that everything has happened for the best. At the end of this time Reggie gets tired of single blessedness. He wants someone to wait on him, someone to cook his food. Why not engage a housekeeper? he thinks. Brilliant idea, he will do so. Accordingly, assuming the name of Anstruther, he replies to an advertisement. It so happens that the advertiser is his own wife, who, recognising the handwriting, makes up her mind to get even with her husband at all cost. Disguised as an old, lame woman, she calls upon Reggie at the time arranged. Imagine his surprise. He has been expecting a pretty and perhaps fascinating young lady of twenty-one. Instead he finds himself face to face with a woman apparently old enough to be his mother. He must get rid of her somehow. He turns his back for a moment, and considers how to relieve himself of her presence. Then his wife throws off her disguise, and when he turns again he is dumbfounded. Stormy words ensue, but eventually peace is restored, and all ends well. The dialogue throughout is very humorous, and this capital little piece should be at the halls before long. Miss May Shepherd, the authoress, plays the part of Nita Waring with distinction, and is ably assisted by Mr. Fred Humphreys as Reggie Waring. The small part of the manservant is excellently enacted by Mr. S. H. Ellis. The sketch is produced under the management of Mr. Fred Wyndham.

"THE HEID O' THE HOOSE."

Sketch, by Helen McLeod Scott, Produced at the Victoria Palace on Monday, Dec. 30.

John Grant ..... Mr. W. Hogarth
Sandy ..... Mr. Alex. Thomson
Janet Grant .....Mrs. Graeme Goring

The case against the suffragette is forcibly and humorously put in this sketch, by Helen McLeod Scott. The little piece was originally produced at the Tivoli, Aberdeen, on Oct. 7 last, when it made an immediate hit, and its reception on Monday was an indication that its success will be repeated in London. As the title indicates, the piece is of a Scottish nature, and is distinguished by the quaintness characteristic of that nation. The fun arises out of the dilemma of an Edinburgh joiner named John Grant, who comes home continuously from work to find his wife out seeking "the vote." In despair he accepts the assistance of his friend Sandy, a cheery policeman, whose "beat" lies outside the house. Mrs. Grant returns from a meeting flushed with victory in a window-smashing campaign, and then and there John proposes that in future he will vote exactly as his wife dictates, provided that she will undertake the duties of the head of the house. She readily agrees, but soon finds the responsibilities too great, especially when it includes the removal of a drunken man, who has taken up his position on the landing outside their flat. This is the time for the entry of the constable, who proceeds to arrest Mrs. Grant for resisting the law at a recent suffragist outbreak, and the placing of the handcuffs on her wrists finally reduces her to subjection, when the policeman magnanimously releases her.

There are many funny lines in the piece, which is acted by artistes from beyond the Tweed, and the Scottish accent falls pleasantly on the ear. Mr. W. Hogarth is responsible for numerous laughs as the much-enduring husband, whose sense of humour happily is not blunted by his household troubles. Mrs. Graeme Goring makes a typical Scottish housewife, with political aspirations, and her depiction of Mrs. Grant's distress when in the clutches of the law is very real. Mr. Alex Thompson as the canny policeman adds to the comic effect of the sketch, which created evident enjoyment among the audience.

A RAG-TIME SEXTET.

The revival of "rag-time" has brought forth many new exponents of the craze, but few, it is safe to say, have been more entertaining than the Rag-Time Six, who are this week making their first appearance in England. The troupe indulge in song and chorus, much of which is novel. A most amusing sextet is that of the "Rag-time Soldier Band," which represents three young army men taking leave of their sweethearts in tuneful rhyme, which contains an equal amount of fun and sentiment. Later comes the "Chicken Rag," in which the ladies dress up in realistic bird costumes, and imitations of the barndoor fowl are given, while some smart dancing is supplied in "The Texas Tommy Dancers" and in "Ragtime Cowboy Joe," wherein all the latest rag-time eccentricities are introduced. The performers work hard and well, and the results are very exhilarating.

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NELLIE WIGLEY, Royal, Birmingham.
VIOLET LLOYD, Opera House, Belfast.
EDNA MORGAN, Royal, Nottingham.
ETHEL NEGRETTI, Royal, Sheffield.
DORMA MORGAN, Opera House, Leicester.
HEBE BLISS, Grand, Leeds.
IRENE ARMITAGE, Royal, Portsmouth.
ROSIE FITZGERALD, King's, Dover.
ETHEL BRAILSFORD, Rotunda, Liverpool.
SYLVIA ROSSLYN, Royal, Worthing.
HETTIE ZILLWOOD, Hippodrome, Southend.
MABEL OSBORNE, Hippodrome, Sheffield.
LILY EDWARDS, Hippodrome, Liverpool.
DOROTHY VEITCH, Royal, Dewsbury.
ADA BELLFIELD, Court, Wigan.
BELLA FREDERICKS, Assembly Rooms Theatre, Great Malvern.
KITTY DOUGLAS, Chester.
DAISY WEST COLLINS, Royal, Plymouth.
MINNIE MYRLE, Prince's, Bradford.
VICTORIA CARMEN, Empire, Sunderland.
ADA PRESCOTT, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
ALICE DIGBY, Royal, Bristol.
ELLALINE THORNE, Royal, Hanley.
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KATIE JAMES, Pavilion, Oswestry.
CECIL RUSSELL, Alexandra, Sheffield.
VIOLA HAMILTON, Opera House, Southport.
JEWEL ST. LEGER, Princes, Shaftesbury Avenue.
MAY THOMAS, Kennington Theatre.
MARIE REEVE, Brixton Theatre.
MAY BEATTY, King's, Hammersmith.
ETHEL BEECH, Euston Palace.
EVA KELLAND, Shakespeare, Clapham.
MARJORIE MANNERS, Broadway, New Cross.
TWO LE ROYS, Borough, Stratford.
NAN TAYLOR, Palace, Tottenham.
DORA CHRISTIAN, Empire, Stratford.
ETHEL HALL, Lyric, Hammersmith.
MABEL MANNERING, New Theatre, Wimbledon.
EVA SOUTA, Britannia, Hoxton.
AMY MAPLE, Dalston Theatre.
JULIA WILLIS, Elephant and Castle.
AGNES BOND, Metropolitan.
GWENNIE VAUGHAN, Grand, Fulham.
ANNA HANA, Hippodrome, Lewisham.
MONICA ELLESTREE, Alexandra, Birmingham.
OLIVE PLANT, King's, Dundee.
MADGE BERESFORD, Metropole, Gateshead.
EMMA ELGIN, Regent, Salford.
NANCY LANGTYRE, Royal, Brighton.
CISSIE THOMPSON, Royal, Exeter.
OLLIE DENNIE, Opera House, Southport.
KATRINA MARCHE, Opera House, Dudley.
LILY ENNIS, Royal, Stockport.
ROBERTA WILLIAMS, Royal, Cardiff.
LIZZIE PRIMMER, Royal, Guildford.
LALLAH DAVIES, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
MAY POULTON, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
EDITH WOLFE, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
MARION FERN, Metropole, Openshaw.

IMPORTANT.—Will Pantomime Artistes who are singing "My Heart is with you to-night" whose names are not included in foregoing list kindly communicate?

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"SEASIDE REVIEW."

NEW PETERMAN PRODUCTION AT THE OXFORD.

Described as "a wave of incidents depicting everything you see at the seaside," Mr. Joe Peterman presented his new piece, "Seaside Review," at the Oxford on Monday evening. In this production Mr. Peterman has succeeded in deriving a fair amount of laughable matter from the prominent features of a modern seaside resort. The visitors, the landladies, the "get-rich-quick" hotel proprietors, the entertainers, and a host of other characters are burlesqued, and a bevy of pretty girls add considerable effect to the production. Miss Dorothy Monkman sings and dances with considerable charm. Among her more popular numbers are "Hitchy-Koo" and "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee." Derek Hudson, Stanley Leedam, Fred Dudley, Mark Lane, Charles Algar, William Jordan, Charles Max, Joe Peterman, and Miss Shields fill their respective parts with creditable enthusiasm and marked ability.

The "Seaside Review" has the makings of a really acceptable entertainment. It is bright throughout, and though there are many gags which are neither new nor particularly humorous, there is every reason to hope that when the more obvious shortcomings are remedied, the sketch should provide Mr. Peterman with yet another success.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

NEWMARKET'S PREMIER ENTERTAINMENT.

Though possessing neither a theatre nor a music hall, Newmarket by no means lacks a first-class entertainment. In this direction Mr. Barrington Lynham, the ex-jockey, is to be highly complimented upon the success of his new enterprise, the Victoria Cinema de Luxe, a large and substantial building, well situated in the heart of the historical town. Presenting nothing but the best pictures, combined with well-chosen varieties, Mr. Lynham has rapidly secured the patronage of all sections amongst the townsfolk. Last week, his Christmas programme was particularly well supported. Miss Marjorie Banks paid a return visit, and her songs at the piano were loudly applauded. In more suitable songs, however, this young artiste will appear to even greater advantage. Both she and George Caselli, a light comedian and dancer, who was also in the bill, should avoid rag-time until they have acquired a better idea of "ragging." George Caselli proved a dancer of promising ability.

THE SHEFFIELD CHOIR.

The Sheffield Choir made its first appearance at the Coliseum on Monday, and the welcome given to the famous body of vocalists is a further proof that audiences at Mr. Stoll's fine house are staunch lovers of vocal music. The choir comprises 14 sopranos, 10 altos, 10 tenors, and 11 basses, 45 in all, and the volume of tone is splendid. The mellow quality of the voices is best displayed in the piano passages, which are beautifully rendered. They made a great hit, their performance of "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower" being greeted with enthusiasm. They were also heard to the best advantage in Eaton Faning's "Moonlight," Cooke's famous "Strike the Lyre," Macfarren's "You stole my love," and Elgar's "The Dance." These numbers were perfectly sung, and the richly endowed choir should draw the mass of musical Londoners to the Coliseum. During their engagement the selections given will include a series of madrigals by Edwardes, Ravenscroft, and Morley; glees by Cooke; and part songs by Elgar and Parry. We should hope that Sullivan and Barnby also will be included.

CHRISTMAS AT PENZANCE.

Never in the history of Penzance has a Christmas been so successful, from a theatrical point of view, as that of 1912, for up to that time the playgoers of the Cornish Riviera had to content themselves with an occasional visit from a touring company, but now, through the enterprise of the Cornish Riviera Entertainments Co., Ltd., the finest pavilion and winter gardens in Cornwall has been erected in the Alexandra Grounds, with Mr. Frederic Dale as managing-director, and here Miss Louie Freear and company rendered excellent programmes to crowded houses, while in the centre of the town one of the most luxurious picture palaces in Devon and Cornwall has been supplied by the Penzance Cinema Co., of which Mr. G. S. Ramsay is the businesslike and courteous manager. In addition to these places of amusement, there is the Picturedrome, where Mr. Harry Burrow, supported by his capable chief, Mr. Dick Trembath, present excellent pictures and clever variety artistes. Both these houses showed to large audiences. There is also the Picture Palace and Skating Rink, under the control of Mr. Robert Thomas, who spares no expense in order that his patrons might be satisfied. The popular Mayor (Mr. A. K. Barnett), who has been elected for the sixth time, is a director of the pavilion, and takes a keen interest in the show. The St. John's Hall boards were occupied by Mr. George Edwardes' "Dollar Princess" Co., presented by Messrs. A. J. Rogers and Son, on behalf of Messrs. Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young, and even standing room was at a premium. It will therefore be seen that inhabitants and visitors alike are well catered for at this end of the world.

The Committee of the V.A.B. Institution at Brinsworth have recently admitted two more well-known performers—one of each sex—raising the number of inmates to sixteen.

Among hundreds of congratulatory wires received by the Star Co. the following may be quoted:—From Leicester: "'My heart is with you to-night' enormous success. Three encores.—Dorma Morgan." From Gateshead: "'Mister Cupid' and 'My heart' terrific successes last night. Double encores.—Madge Beresford." "Theatre Royal, Hanley, ten Star successes.—Claud Yearsley." From Exeter: "'Cupid' a riot. Hit of pantomime. Also singing 'My heart,' 'Wedding march,' 'Walking round.'—Cissie Thompson." "'My heart,' 'Patricia,' 'Woolloomooloo,' 'Honeymoon' huge successes.—Barnes, Alexandra, Birmingham." *Verb sap.*

Mr. Bert Castle has made a phenomenal success with "Paree" at the Palace, Bordesley, where it is the absolute hit of the pantomime. Mr. Castle reports that other Star successes sung in the pantomime at this house are "Mister Cupid," "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," and "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," all of which are going with a bang.

The Star Music Co. have received the following letter from Mr. Philip Rodway, of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham:—"At the moment we are especially featuring the following songs: 'I want to live in Brittany,' with Maie Ash; 'My heart is with you to-night,' with Nellie Wigley; 'Little shepherdess of Devon,' Nellie Gallafent; 'Patricia,' 'Keep on swinging me, Charlie.'" Truly, a goodly list of Star "plums."

From the Tyne, Newcastle, the Star Co. have received the following:—"Miss Beck (principal boy) is singing 'All through the wedding march' and 'Mister Cupid,' both successes. Miss Guiver (principal girl) is singing 'My heart is with you to-night.'" From the Theatre Royal, Guildford, the Star Co. have received the following:—"'Little shepherdess of Devon' and 'My heart is with you to-night' are being sung by Miss Lizzie Primmer. 'Wibbly wobbly walk' is being sung by Mr. George Payne, and 'There's something in the seaside air' by Miss Marie Earle."

One would have to visit many pantomimes before they encountered a more delightful singer of the Star's great ballad, "My heart is with you to-night," than Miss Ethel Beech, who plays Dick at the Euston Palace this week. Her reception is tumultuously successful, and she well deserves the many plaudits so liberally showered upon her.

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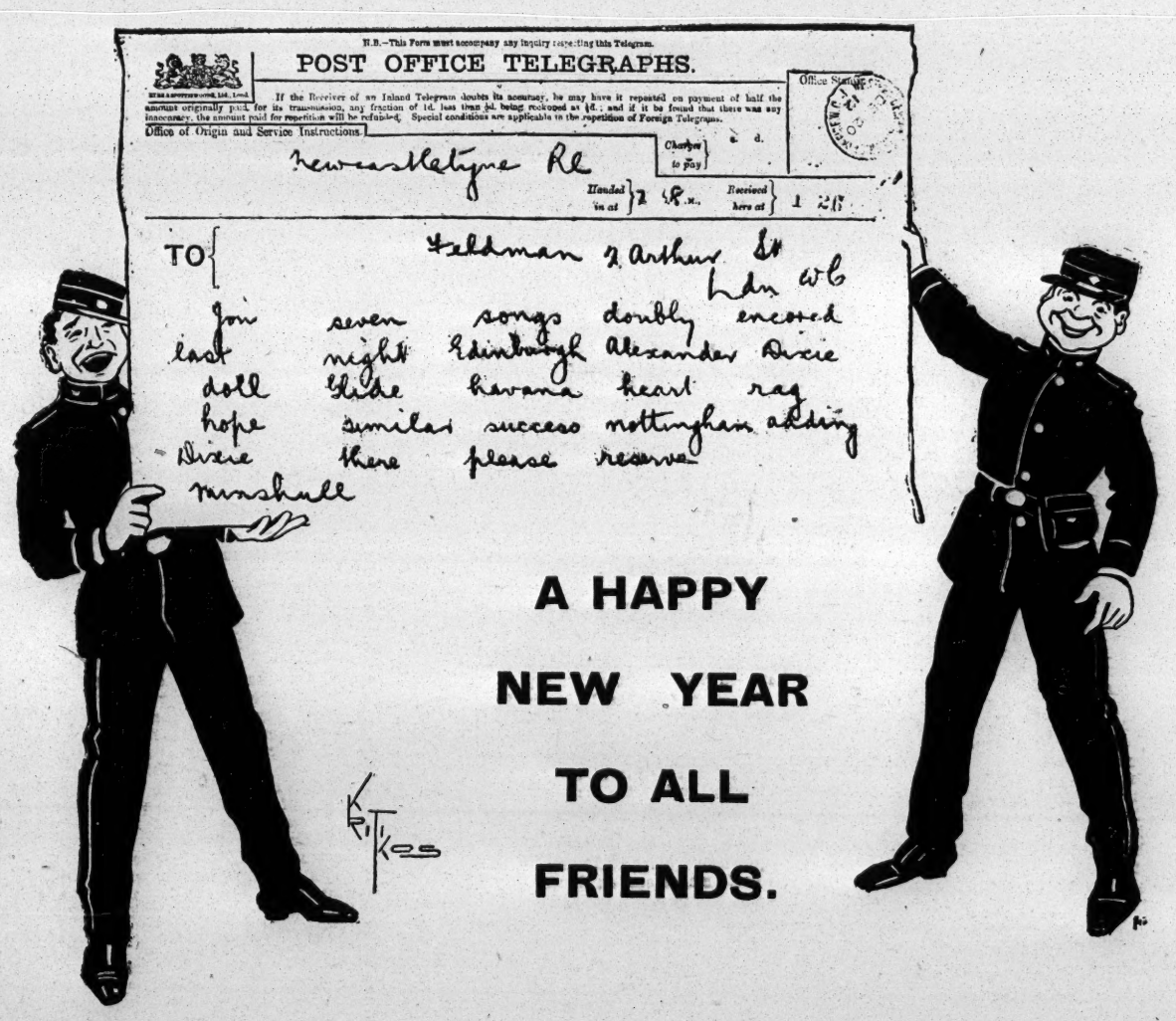
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ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND
EVERYBODY'S DOING IT
I WANT TO BE IN DIXIE
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OH! YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL
THE RAGTIME VIOLIN
FIDDLE DEE DEE
GIRL IN HAVANA
LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY
MARY USED TO LOVE A SAILOR
WHO WERE YOU WITH LAST NIGHT?
GARDEN OF MY HEART

FELDMAN JUSTLY ACCLAIMED WORLD'S WONDER WORKER

THESE SONGS WILL MAKE YOUR PANTOMIME

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...IONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE SEATRICAL EMPLOYEES.

A wee... MENT FOR INCREASE OF WAGES.

...ager a... seven to eight hundred employees at... ...ears to the meeting called by the National ...publish...ion of Theatrical Employees, representing ...blue p...engaged in the dramatic, variety, and pic... ...the "...atres, &c., held at the Royal Victoria Hall, ...tutes ...o-road, on Sunday evening. Mr. James ...counte...y, M.P., President of the General Federa... ...mate... Trade Unions, presided, and was sup... ...Co.'s ...by Mr. W. Johnson, General Secretary of ...night, ...A.T.E., Mr. Frank Smith, L.C.C., Mr. ...panto... Briant, L.C.C., Mr. James MacDonald, ...amplery of the London Trades Council, and ...part...rs of the society.

...the t... O'Grady, in opening the meeting, said he ...abroglad of that opportunity to carry out what he ...of ...ived to be his duty to the trade union move... ...arnt... in being present that night, especially be... ...ause of the fact that they were met to strengthen ...wir union and to seriously consider proposals ...tout would be submitted in order that their con... ...thions of employment might be improved. (Hear, ...thar.) He knew of no better work to occupy a ...Sunday evening than work of that character. ...There was no section of the industrial popula... ...tion where the need of trade union combination ...of a strong and influential character was so great ...as among the men who carried on the work in our ...theatres and music halls. He thought their work ...was cursed with a kind of obsession. Some called ...t a kind of Bohemianism, which made men some... ...that go away from the main line of thought and ...ction the union desired them to follow. It was ...Sid that theatrical employees were all very good ...elends and called one another "bad boys" and ...Tgood girls," and that the hat was sent round in ...me of need. That was all very well in its way, ...but were they going to end in that direction and ...miss the main fundamental reasons why men ...should belong to a union? For the purposes of ...preventing the hat being sent round, and helping ...themselves as it was the duty of workmen to do, ...it was about time they got rid of that Bohemian... ...ism. They had got to realise one point, and it had ...been driven into the heads of workmen of all ...civilised communities in the world, that unless ...workpeople concerned themselves as to their con... ...ditions of employment, their wages and hours of ...work, there could be no steps towards political ...and social emancipation. There could be no de... ...finite step towards economic emancipation until ...men first of all joined the unions to improve the ...working conditions. Very many of the social evils ...suffered from to-day would almost fade away ...M... were possible by Act of Parliament to in... ...Mr... se the wages of workmen to the tune of 25 ...min...cent. Housing was merely a matter of wages. ...the ...iously if the workman got better wages he ...wh...ld afford to pay for better houses. The ques... ...in...n of the Great White Scourge was, after all, ...a... of a poverty disease. And he ventured to ...l...y that the best proposal that could emanate ...S...m any source to cure that dread disease would ...be one instantly to increase the wages of work... ...people by 15 to 25 per cent. A workman who ...thought he could by his own skill, ingenuity, ...character and capacity demand what he considered ...o be the full value of his labour off his own bat ...was sadly mistaken. The highest type of skilled ...rtisan would be a fool to go to the factory gates ...as an unorganised workman and think he could ...et from the employer the value he put upon his ...wn labour. The only proposition that could raise ...wages, the only agency by which wages could be ...raised, was by combinations of workpeople setting ...a value in their corporate capacity on their own ...labour.

TRADE UNIONISM STILL ALIVE.

...e had heard people say that trade unionism ...played out. He did not believe it. He did ...not say that because he was and had been an ...agitator, but the outstanding fact of life to-day in ...civilised communities was that trade unionism ...was not played out. It had not fulfilled its pur... ...pose; in fact, it had just become ready to make ...the great impression upon poverty it ought to ...have done years ago if the workman had had ...common sense. He had never blamed employers ...for long hours and bad wages. Employers were ...n...han beings, and they were not in business for ...their employees' pleasure. They were in business ...for the sole and only purpose of making profit, ...otherwise they would not be there. (Hear, hear.) ...And they were going to do all they could individ... ...ually and collectively to increase the profits. ...When an ordinary business man was in a corner ...he looked round to see how he could best econo... ...mise. He would not go to the landlord and say ...that because of bad trade he asked for the rent ...to be decreased by 10 per cent.; in fact, he would ...be a fool if he went on that errand. He could ...not go to the tax collector, and he would not ...diminish the power of machinery, because that ...did not make things better. The only way he ...could find to economise was if he discovered that ...his workpeople were unorganised, and so in his ...(the speaker's) judgment he played the game and ...economised in the easiest direction and decreased ...wages. There was only one obvious reply, and ...that was that the workman must do exactly the ...same kind of thing, and concern himself with his ...own interest first of all, and he would be concern... ...ing himself with the best interest of the employer ...if the employer had good sense. When employees ...combined they incidentally promoted the best in... ...terests of the employers' business if the employers ...only knew it, and that is the reason for our say... ...ing that employers ought to have no objection to ...trade unionism among their workpeople. Federa... ...tions of employers who have that objection are ...stupid. When railway Bills are before Parliament ...there are no such things as Liberal or Tory rail... ...way directors. They are simply railway directors ...every time, and they are quite right in dropping ...politics on economic questions. There are no ...Liberal or Tory landowners when it is a question ...of Land Reform. When it is a mining question ...employers are mining magnates and colliery pro... ...prietors only. The workers had a vested interest ...far more sacred and important not only to them... ...selves but to the nation at large, than even the ...vested interest of mines or lands. That vested in... ...terest was their own labour, their own health, ...their own capacity as workpeople, and the Go... ...vernment or the corporation of employers who ...entrenched upon that interest ought to be fought ...by all the agencies workers have at their com... ...mand. If the employees were ill they were ...treated worse than the horses the employers ...possess, because the horses had cost them some... ...thing, and the workers cost them nothing. Do ...not let them go on in the parochial, miserable way ...of standing aloof from each other and leaving each ...man to fight his own corner from his own bat. ...The thing that led to success in this world was ...power, and economic power, above all, was the ...power that moulded men's lives and shaped their ...destinies, and if the workpeople only realised ...what a power they were when they were combined ...in a union they were only appraising themselves ...at their own value. Then all those things they ...had been longing for and talking about and work... ...ing for would be within measurable distance of ...their grasp. If they asked for paltry wages and ...long hours and bad conditions they got them. ...The value they placed upon themselves was the ...value at which the employer paid them. No ...union could be run without money. A union must ...have capital, must be run by brains, and must be ...conducted on business lines, and the people who ...were to see that that was done were the men and ...women in the union who were the union. Let ...them strengthen their union by membership and ...by funds. Nothing was got in this world without ...fighting for it. Some present might look down ...upon the dockers, but the dockers had brains and ...knew the value of combination, and the dockers' ...wages would be a veritable El Dorado to some ...theatrical employees. If they wanted to get their ...demands without a strike every man and woman ...in that audience ought to go away from there ...constituting themselves organisers, talking to ...their own fellows in the theatres, music halls, and ...picture palaces, so that by the time the notice ...expired they would at least have 75 to 80 per cent. ...of the workers in their union. If they wanted ...peace the best way to get it was to be prepared ...for strife, and the best way to prepare for strife ...was to have a strong combination. (Applause.)

AIMS OF THE MOVEMENT.

Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the N.A.T.E., in the course of a statement said the union sought to organise every man and woman employed in any capacity in any place of amusement on the working or administrative staff, back or front of the house. That meeting was to mainly deal with a question that was ripe for settlement. That was an application for 2s. 6d. per performance in West-End theatres. It was also to show other sections that the union had their welfare at heart and sought to obtain adequate remuneration for their labour. Some managers were under the impression that their people were satisfied, and as the union was anxious to know whether that was true or not they had called that meeting in order that the men and women who were satisfied could attend and tell them that it was so, and why it was so. (Laughter.) The question had been the subject of negotiation for almost twelve months. Trade unions were often accused of being impetuous, but they could not be censured for any want of consideration in this matter. He wanted to say quite frankly and plainly that if the managers of London theatres were under the impression that the patience and moderation the union had shown was a sign of weakness or want of intention to get this increase they were very much mistaken. (Applause.) The moment had arrived when the workers had got to show the managers that their patience was exhausted. (Applause.) He had no hesitation in saying that if the men at the West-End theatres were to say to-morrow that they wanted the question to be settled at once it would be settled in twenty-four hours to their advantage. (Applause.) When that question came before one of the largest of the West-End managers, he called together the leading men in the department and asked them if they were members of the union. One replied that he had been a member for twenty years and another for fourteen years. (Applause.) The manager asked how many members of the house were members of the union, and he was told that there were 80 per cent. Two days after that the manager wrote a letter to the staff informing them that, having heard some houses were paying half a crown it gave him great pleasure to grant the increase to them. He was referring to Mr. Arthur Collins. In further letters Mr. Collins said that the members of the staff were satisfied with the increased wages given, and they always knew he was willing to give consideration to their grievances. All he (the speaker) could say was that Mr. Collins had succeeded in dissembling his love for the staff for many years; and in his opinion Mr. Collins would have continued to dissemble his love if the Union had not reminded him of it. That was the case of a company which had returned the whole of the capital to the shareholders with a considerable surplus, and had paid 15 to 20 per cent. on six months' trading. What did Mr. Collins think the men did during the other six months of the year? The speaker could tell him. They existed on the verge of starvation, seeking casual employment here and there. In the past week some men might have received handsome wages, but they had earned every penny they got. As a matter of fact, the men worked hard at pantomime performances, and at Drury Lane Theatre they were now working for five and a half hours, and even with the increase of 6d. it would only mean half-a-crown, which was less than sixpence an hour. Were they surprised that the employees were asking Mr. Collins to pay 3s. per man per performance? If Mr. Collins paid per hour on the same basis as nearly every other house in the West-End, he would pay not half-a-crown, but 4s. per man per performance.

Some managers regarded the work during performances as overtime, but there were none who offered to pay overtime rates. The Union was quite willing to regard it as overtime on condition that the workers got overtime rates, but they were in the peculiar position that while the managers were willing to pay double time from eight o'clock during a production, when it came to doing similar work during performances they would not pay the same rate. For almost twenty years they had recognition of a minimum rate, 4s. a day for daywork and 2s. a performance. That rate was fixed on a basis of three hours per show. It might be unkind to disturb the old notions, but it was time they did disturb them. Managers were under the impression that the employees did their work as a pastime or amusement—(laughter)—but in every industry work was being speeded up and the number of men employed was cut down to the lowest minimum. The theatrical employees were a cosmopolitan crowd. They had men from every industry, but the fact that men were being displaced in every industry made it more difficult for the men who depended on theatre work to get work elsewhere. There were no jobs to be got, and therefore an increased number of men and women depended exclusively upon their earnings in the theatre whether as day men or night men. That being so, the theatrical industry, the widespread and profitable industry of public amusement, should be required to maintain adequately, sufficiently and continuously every man and woman whose services were necessary to its continuation, otherwise managers would still be subsidised by wages earned by their employees for other work. There was also the danger that the employers of those who had other work in the day time would say that they were devoting their energies to other employers at night, when they should be resting and restoring their energies for the next day's work.

A LIVING WAGE DEMANDED.

They wanted a living wage for every man and woman who worked in a place of public amusement. In Drury Lane, through the efforts of the Union, they were getting half-a-crown, which, with two performances a day, meant a minimum of 30s. a week. They had to work until nearly 12 o'clock, with very short intervals between the two performances. That was 6s. a week better than it was the year before this. They would hardly believe it, but there were some men in Drury Lane Theatre who even yet had not realised their duty to the Union. Those were the men who were retarding the progress of the working classes, because the only enemies of the working classes were the members of their own body. There was no power in this country which could stand against a united organised working class, and there was no power in the theatrical profession that could stand against any organised body of people working in that profession. There was no one item in their programme that could not be realised if they were organised, united and loyal one to the other, as they ought to be, and were capable of being. Dealing with the conditions of employment in music halls, Mr. Johnson said: While the Music Hall 1907 Award did not give them all they asked for, before that time the pay was as low as a shilling to eighteenpence for two performances a night. Whenever the Union obtained a recognition of its rates and conditions, certain employees were apt to say that now they had got what they wanted they were going to leave off paying into the Union. But a new manager came along, and the conditions were changed, and the men were not strong enough to prevent it, and they went back to the old state of things. That had been done times without number in London. If they would not learn from experience, no words would teach them. Under the Music Hall Award they got 2s. 3d. per night in place of 1s. in many cases, which made an increase of 3s. to 7s. 6d. per week, but they did not get all they asked for, and they were now going to ask for more than they asked then, because they knew that the work of the individual employee had increased and that the cost of living had increased, and therefore they realised that if they were to have the same standard of life as ten or fifteen years ago they must have a substantial increase. They were going to put down a minimum for every section of employees in each department much in excess of what was now prevailing. Instead of 2s. 3d. per night they were going to ask for 1s. 6d. per performance, which would be 3s.; and instead of 1s. 6d. per matinée they were asking for 2s. 6d. They would ask a minimum of 8d. per hour for all men employed during the day under the Award, with overtime rates for work done in excess of the normal working day. The Executive Committee would meet the next day to finally decide upon a schedule of wages, which had been under consideration for a long time, and which would be sent to every music hall manager in the United Kingdom. The Award prevented any strikes or lock-outs until all efforts for a settlement by negotiation had been exhausted. It would mean giving three months' notice, and in the meantime they would negotiate with a view at arriving at a proper and satisfactory settlement. If that failed they would call in the intervention of the Federation of Trade Unions, and if that failed the question would be referred to an arbitrator. In the meantime there would be no stoppage of work, and with the support of all concerned, they were bound to make a very great improvement in the conditions of labour of all people in the theatres. The picture theatres employed a very large section of young people at wages almost beyond description. He knew of places where the pay was as low as 2d. an hour—(a voice: "Rule Britannia"—laughter)—and employed under conditions which could scarcely be described as healthy. The growth of Sunday shows had made it extremely difficult to organise them, but the Union would do for them what they hoped to do for the theatre and music hall workers, and would prepare a schedule of wages and rates for every section of picture theatre employees.

AMERICAN RATES.

In America the Alliance was probably the most powerful of any organised body of workmen in the world. The minimum rates for men in the United States was as follows: Carpenters, £8; electricians, £6; property men, £6; flymen, £5; and so on, from 30 to 40 dollars a week. In this country we had men doing the same kind of work for as many shillings. The difference was not Tariff Reform or duties, it was due solely to a capacity to organise. In Australia the theatrical workers had, through the Arbitration Act, compelled the managers to meet them in the arbitration court, and the court had fixed a schedule of wages far in excess of what was paid in this country. They were ready to arbitrate on this question, and they were ready, he hoped, to take any other steps necessary to bring their case to a successful issue. (Applause.)

THE RESOLUTION.

Mr. James Billinghurst (No. 1 branch) moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting declares that the time has arrived when in justice to their employees the managers of the Metropolitan dramatic and picture theatres should grant an increase of pay to all sections of the men and women in their employ attached to the working staff. The meeting therefore approves

"(1) The application made by the Union for an increase of pay from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per man per performance in West-End theatres, with a corresponding increase in all suburban theatres.

"(2) Such revision in the terms of the Music Hall (1907) Award as will provide a reasonable increase for all sections of employees in music halls.

"(3) An application to the proprietors of picture theatres for the recognition of a minimum scale of pay, including double time pay for Sunday work, as will be satisfactory to the Union.

"Be it therefore resolved that those present pledge themselves to give their utmost support to the Union in any and all efforts necessary to secure these improvements in the conditions of employment."

Mr. Geo. Pickering (No. 1 branch) seconded. He said he got his living in the theatre, and it was a very poor one at that. At his house, through the intervention of the Union, they were paid 2s. 6d. a show, but if he went to a house only a few yards away he should have to do the same amount of work for 2s.

Mr. Frank Briant, L.C.C., Mr. James MacDonald, and Mr. Frank Smith, L.C.C., all made effective speeches in support of the resolution.

In answer to a question Mr. Johnson said he hoped the theatre question would be settled in the coming week.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously amid applause.

In accordance with the provisions of the Music Hall Award, given on June 14, 1907, the National Association Theatrical Employees has submitted to the Music Hall Managers of the United Kingdom certain alterations to the terms of that Award, which it believes to be necessary.

FINAL AWARD.

The following is taken from Sir G. R. Askwith's award, issued June 14, 1907, concerning managers and employees.

1. In consequence of certain disputes between managers of theatres of varieties in London and the provinces and their artistes, musicians, and employees, and following upon the strike of artistes, musicians, and employees, it was agreed by the parties to refer all matters in dispute to me, George Ranken Askwith, and it was agreed, for the purpose of bringing the award under the terms of the Conciliation Act, 1896, to request the Board of Trade to confirm the reference, and such confirmation having been granted, I, the undersigned, have heard the parties and their representatives, and having received and considered the evidence of more than one hundred witnesses during twenty-three formal sittings, and the statements there made and at many conferences, award and declare, in addition to three interim awards already published, that the following rules, regulations, and rates shall be applicable to theatres of varieties in Great Britain and Ireland:—

EMPLOYEES.

2. Provinces.

No proposals for alteration or change on behalf of the employees (stage hands, &c.) in provincial theatres of varieties was brought before me, and I award and declare that no dispute exists at the present time in the provinces requiring my adjudication.

3. London. Minimum rate of pay. Daymen.

Assistants employed during the day in addition to evening work on the stage, including fly, properties, &c., assistant electricians, lime-light or gas men, to be paid a minimum of 27s. 6d. per week, exclusive of overtime.

HOURS.

4. The normal working hours to be approximately between 10.30 o'clock a.m. and 3.30 o'clock p.m., allowing one hour for meals in the daytime on ordinary days, and from 10.30 o'clock a.m. to the conclusion of the performance, allowing one hour for meals on matinée days—Saturdays to be approximately between 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in the event of no matinée; and in the evening from the time necessary for commencing the performance to the clearing of the stage at its conclusion not later than midnight.

OVERTIME.

5. All work done after 12 (midnight) to 7 a.m., or on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days, to be paid for at the rate of 11d. per hour.

NIGHTMEN.

Including all those engaged for stage work during a performance.

DUTIES.

6. To be the setting and striking of the scenery, the operation of lights used, and the general stage work during the performance, and the clearing of the stage after the last item on the programme, not later than midnight.

MINIMUM RATE OF PAY.

7. In one-show-a-night houses, 2s. per performance and 2s. for each matinée of the present average duration.

A special performance exceeding the usual duration of a matinée or evening performance to be paid extra.

In two-shows-a-night houses, 2s. 3d. per night, and 1s. 6d. for each matinée, of the present average duration.

REHEARSALS.

8. Nightmen for rehearsals between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m., 7d. per hour, with a minimum of 1s. 9d., and for rehearsals after 12 p.m. (midnight), on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days, 11d. per hour.

All men employed for rehearsals to be paid from the time of the call, if on duty.

CARPENTERS.

9. Bench hands. The rate of pay to be 10½d. per hour, or the London rate.

Carpenters to work 8½ hours before charging overtime.

Overtime.—On week-days, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., time and a half; from 8 o'clock p.m. to 7 o'clock a.m. next morning, double time. After 1 o'clock Saturdays and on Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Sundays, double time to be paid.

Two hours' grinding money to be allowed on finish of a job after working 48 hours. Carpenters to give two hours' notice on leaving after working 48 hours.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR EMPLOYEES.

10. Minimum wages for stage managers (stage foremen), 36s. per week.

11. Minimum wages for electricians (switchboard attendants), 30s. per week.

Hours.—The same as for daymen.

12. Overtime.—All work done after 12 (midnight) to 7 a.m., or on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day, to be paid for at the rate of 1s. and 11d. per hour respectively.

13. Note.—The variety in the extent of electrical knowledge and skill in dealing with electrical appliances required for different theatres of varieties is so large that no dividing line between electricians (qualified switchboard attendants) and electricians paid under the title of chief electricians or master electricians can be fixed for the purpose of gradation of minimum wage, and, in my opinion, no minimum wage for such chief or master electricians is required, and I make no order in regard to them.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

PROVINCES.—Part I.

1. The following minimum rates to apply to all music halls outside the Metropolitan area within the United Kingdom:—

(a) Stage Managers	£3	0	0 per week.
Electrician in Charge	£3	0	0 per week.
Stage Carpenter	£2	5	0 per week.

Cinematograph Operators, £2 per week for services during day or evening performance, excluding Sunday.

The normal hours to be as per Clause 4 of the 1907 Award.

Overtime to be paid at double normal time rates of pay for all work done after 11.30 to 7 a.m., and on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day.

Wiremen to be paid the Trade Union rate for each class of work when on construction or repair work.

(b) Assistants employed in any stage department, or on the front of the house staff, in any capacity during the day, and men employed in the Advertising Department, to be paid not less than 7½d. per hour, and employed for a period of not less than four hours per day, or paid equivalent value, excluding time worked during a performance and on Sunday.

(c) Overtime.—Time and half rate between 5 o'clock p.m. to 11.30 p.m. (on work not connected with a performance or rehearsal), and double time rate from 11.30 to 7 o'clock next morning, and on Sunday, Good Friday, and Christmas Day.

(d) Hall Keeper.—Not less than £1 15s. per week of not exceeding 60 hours. Any time worked in excess of 60 hours per week to be paid at time and half rates on week-days and double time rates on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day.

(e) Women employed during the day in front of the house to be paid not less than 6d. per hour, with a minimum of 15s. per week.

(f) Stage staff employed for a performance. In one-show-a-night house, 2s. a night not exceeding three hours; matinées, 2s. each; rehearsals, a minimum of 2s., with 8d. per hour for all time required in excess of three hours. A portion of time less than half an hour to count as half an hour.

(g) In two-shows-a-night houses, not exceeding 4½ hours, 2s. 6d. per night; 2s. for each matinée; rehearsals to be paid for as provided in Clause (f).

(h) The work of the stage staff to consist in their respective departments in setting and striking only the scenery, properties, and lights needed for the performance, and not to include the work of taking down or out of the hall any scenery so used or required for any other purpose or place.

(i) Stage employees to be on duty at the time for the raising of the curtain, and to finish not later than ten minutes after the termination of the performance.

(j) Front of the House Staff.—Men or women employed as doormen, ushers, ticket sellers, ticket takers, programme sellers, cloak room and other attendants, during a performance in one-show-a-night houses to be paid not less than 2s. per evening, or day, performance; except when their services are required earlier than one hour before the commencement of a performance, when they shall be paid 6d. extra for each half-hour or portion thereof. Work to conclude within ten minutes of the fall of the curtain.

(k) Carpenters (bench hands) to be paid the recognised local Trade rate for the normal hours, and overtime rates for all time worked in excess of the normal working day, in accordance with the local Trade rules.

LONDON.—Part II.

(a) West End Halls:—

Master Carpenter, not less than £3 10s. per week.
Electrician in Charge .....£3 10s. per week.

(b) Suburban Music Halls:—

Stage Manager	£3	0	0	per week.
Electrician in Charge	£3	0	0	per week.
Stage Carpenter	£2	10	0	per week.

Cinematograph Operators, £2 5s. per week for services rendered during a day or evening performance and excluding Sunday work.

Normal hours to be as fixed by the 1907 Award. Overtime rate as per Clause A, Part I.

(c) Assistants employed in any stage departments, or on the front of the house staff, in any capacity during the day, and men employed in the Advertising Department, to be paid not less than 8d. per hour and employed for a period of not less than four hours per day, or paid equivalent value, excluding time work, during a performance and on Sunday.

Wiremen to be paid the Trade Union rate for each class of work when on construction or repair work.

(d) Overtime.—Time and half rate from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and double time rate (on work other than work at a performance or a rehearsal) between the hours 8 p.m. and 7 a.m., and on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day.

(e) Hallkeeper, not less than £2 per week of not exceeding 60 hours per week: any time worked in excess of 60 hours per week to be paid for at time and half rates on week days, and double time rates on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day.

(f) Women employed during the day in the front of the house to be paid not less than 6d. per hour, with a minimum of 15s. per week.

(g) Stage staff employed for a performance.—In one-show-a-night houses, 2s. 6d. per performance not exceeding 3 hours duration. A performance, day or evening, exceeding 3 hours' duration, to be paid for extra at the rate of 4d. per 15 minutes or portion thereof.

(h) In two-shows-a-night house, 3s. per night for a period of not exceeding 4½ hours from the rise of the curtain in the first house to the fall of the curtain in the second house. Two evening performances exceeding such period of time to be paid for extra at the rate of 4d. per 15 minutes or portion thereof.

(i) Stage employees to be on duty at the time for the raising of the curtain, and to finish not later than ten minutes after the termination of the performance.

(j) Rehearsals on week days, between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m., a minimum of 2s. 6d. for 3 hours or portion thereof. Rehearsals called after 12 p.m., and on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day, to be paid for at double time rates.

(k) Front of the house staff.—Men and women employed as ushers, ticket sellers, ticket takers, programme sellers, cloak room or other attendants, during a performance to be paid, day or evening, in one-show-a-night houses, not less than 2s. 6d. per performance, except when their services are required earlier than one hour before the commencement of a performance, when they shall be paid 6d. extra for each half hour extra time or portion thereof. Work to conclude within ten minutes of the fall of the curtain.

(l) Carpenters (bench hands).—First part of Clause 1 in Par. 9 of the 1907 Award to read:—

"The rate of pay to be 11½d. per hour, or the London rate. A day's work to consist of 8½ hours, commencing at 7 a.m. (except when starting on a fresh job), and finishing at 5 p.m.

From the word "Overtime" the present clause to stand unaltered.

LONDON AND PROVINCES.

(m) Dressers, supers, and baggage men to be paid not less than the rate per show paid to members of the stage staff when employed by or under control of the management.

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSALS.

Re Item 2, 1907 Award.—Provinces.

In every city there are variations in the conditions of employment in music halls, either in point of hours worked or amount of wages paid to men and to women doing the same class of work.

It is as necessary, therefore, to equalise, as far as it is humanly possible to do so, the conditions under which those workers compete for work and under which employers compete for workers in the provinces.

The Metropolitan Award fixed, approximately, a point, as regards hours and wages, from which both employers and employees must start, without limiting the exercise of any special skill possessed by a worker or any special inducement which any employer may care to offer to those whose services he desires.

This arrangement to equalise the forces of competition assists the fair employer, prevents the unfair employer from taking an undue advantage of the needs of a destitute workman, and renders it unnecessary for a destitute workman to offer to undersell his fellow workman who is in, or out of, employment.

In short, the reasons which justified the Award for the Metropolitan area apply with equal force throughout the United Kingdom.

On the general question of the rates of remuneration.

We believe it will be agreed: a minimum scale of pay for each class and section of employees doing the same kind of work for a similar period of time is desirable.

The rates we submit are suggested because we are convinced that where the rates are less and the hours more than we suggest, the rates are too low and the hours too many for the money.

We submit that, competition has caused the number of employees to be reduced to the irreducible minimum number; that this means more work for fewer men and women. The work has increased because of the more varied and elaborate nature of the programme of the variety theatre. The sketch, the short play with special scenery, have obviously added to the work and responsibilty of all connected with a stage department, from the stage-manager and electrician down to the sceneshifter and arc-light operator. The worry and the insecurity of the work has increased; the cost of living has increased and justifies a substantial increase in the wages of all sections of employees.

Re Items 11 and 13 of the 1907 Award.

We are satisfied that the Arbitrator did not intend that an electrician attached to the house staff, and who was held responsible by the L.C.C. for the observance of their regulations, should be paid as a "Switchboard Attendant."

In a number of cases this has been done, the electrician has been held responsible, but he has only received the wage of a subordinate.

We see no difficulty in fixing a suitable minimum for men who, according to the L.C.C. regulations, must be in charge of the installation, and must be present to be able to deal with any "urgency repairs and alterations, such as are required almost daily in theatre installations."

Moreover, in those cases where, since 1907, the electrician has been required to take over the work of the cinematograph operator and thus enable the management to dispense with the services of an operator, usually paid at the rate of £2 10s. and £2 5s. per week, the management have the means to provide a substantial addition to the wage of the electrician for his additional work and responsibility.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A powerful attraction at the Kingston Empire this week is that ever popular comedian, Harry Randall, whose reappearance at Kingston drew a big house on Monday night, and at each subsequent performance. Mr. Randall's two songs, "Using swanky language all the week" and "A little bit of furniture with trousers on," were received with shrieks of laughter, and the artiste was recalled again and again. Another capital feature of the bill which Mr. Sounes is presenting to his patrons is the sketch, "Our Baby," which is presented by Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum. Mr. Kitts plays the double part of Bobbie Courtney and Col. Chutney, and Miss Rhoda Windrum appears as Elsie Courtney, the other parts being sustained as follows:—Mabel Holmes, Miss Beatrice Boren; and Bates, Mr. H. Green. The sketch causes no end of fun, and a notable feature of it was the quick change of Mr. Kitts from uncle to nephew.

A most interesting exhibition of living statuary by Mlle. Angela and her assistants was presented with most artistic completeness, the most notable of the pictures, all of which were highly applauded, being "The love-swing," "The model," "The arrival of spring," "Amor and Psyche," "The Bacchanals," "Nymph drolleries," and "For king and country," the latter of which, depicting a wounded soldier, tended by a nurse and guarded by two soldiers, aroused great enthusiasm. Mabel Thorne, with a fine presence, received a warm reception in her two songs, "Every sailor is true when on the ocean" and "Making love," and La Belle Alva displayed much grace and agility in her dances as a Spanish gipsy girl. Some clever and amusing mechanical tricks were introduced in the pantomimic sketch, "A Day Out," by Emil Solbrig and his company, a property horse and the knockabout business causing great laughter. Other items in an admirable programme were Gabrielle Hope, in a musical act; the Dixie Girls, in "The Silver Coon"; and J. H. Wakefield, coon impersonator and dancer.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

That the programme which Mr. Leslie Conroy is presenting at the Hammersmith Palace this week is greatly appreciated is evidenced by the large audiences that are crowding the place nightly. After an entertaining selection by the orchestra, conducted by the able musical-director, Mr. J. Cleeve, a clever little juvenile actress, Hetty Kenyon, gave two selections from her Shakespearean répertoire, choosing "Constance," from "King John," and "Puck," from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," both of which were well portrayed. That quaint and original comedian, Harry Ford, can always be relied on for mirth-provoking paradoxes. In his first "Schoolboy" song on Monday night he quite well justified his title of "The inquisitive comedian." In his second number, "The grocer," he entertained with some most amusing patter.

Robb Ivy and Lyn, in their pretty song-scena, "The Garden of Music," a much improved act, came next, their "Rag-time dinner" number being loudly applauded. Monny Cash, a Lancashire lad with a real sense of humour and a fine sense of character, met with a capital reception. He was completely at home with his audience in his first song, and his second depicted "Rag-time in a farmyard," quite an original contribution to the latest craze.

Quite a unique turn is that of Rossi Ashton, the well-known war correspondent. In his "Musical sketching," he goes far to justify the remark made as an introduction to the turn—that it is one "never equalled on any stage." Whilst an engaging lady wields the bâton in the place of the musical-director, the clever artist in ten minutes sketches six cartoons of varying interest, keeping time to the music the while.

An extra turn, a contortionist, whose name was not announced, received well-merited applause for his contribution to the programme, and "The River Girl," Messrs. Macdonald and Young's musical farce, already noticed in our columns, and which is topping the bill here, was then presented. No names were given on the programme, but deserving of special mention are the Gipsy Girl, who possesses a powerful voice, and the Waiter, a clever comedian. The minor parts of Bobbie Carruthers and Dixie were also well sustained. The piece, which was received with much applause, is exceptionally well produced. The stage properties and scenic effects finely illustrate the theme, and the chorus know how to sing.

The Bioscope preceded that popular turn, Lockhart's Elephants, most impatient artistes, if one may judge by the trumpeting that was to be heard behind the scenes. The gentle pachyderms started off with "The Gaby glide," and then came "Everybody's doing it." Even these massive creatures have imbibed the rag-time craze! One of them rides a tricycle—a remarkable feat—and the turn, as presented by Captain Taylor, the sole proprietor, is one of the most interesting animal acts to be seen. J. W. Rickaby, who was billed and who was also on the programme, did not put in an appearance, and "The King" brought the programme to a close.

THE GRANVILLE.

A programme of surprising all-round excellence is featured here this week, and the new manager, Mr. George Clare, has every reason to be satisfied with the cheery audiences assembled.

Miss Cissie Lawson on Monday presented a sensational bedroom sketch, entitled "Again a Woman," which, although rather gruesome in parts, nevertheless afforded Miss Lawson many opportunities to display her wonderful emotional powers as an actress, and it was entirely owing to her brilliant efforts, despite the able support she had, that so much success was achieved. Little Daisy Griff played and sang at the piano most bewitchingly, and her two numbers, "Boys, boys, boys!" and "A rag-time honeymoon," pleased everybody. Mr. Max Fuller Golden sang one of America's latest songs in typical style, and, in addition, opened the eyes of the Walham Greenites to the marvellous possibilities in wooden-shoe dancing, evidently an art in which Mr. Golden excels.

Miss Lottie Lennox has again created a furore here with her catchy chorus songs, and her tuneful ditties, "Send us a couple of girls along" and "You won't find many like your Irish Denny," were both heartily taken up by the Granville habitués. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden amusingly figured in a bright little sketch, written round a threatened breach-of-promise case, which served well to illustrate the real versatility of this clever comedy couple. Park's Eton Boys, assisted by the sprightly Girton Girls, thoroughly justified their title of the champion boy and girl singers of the world, and their reception was more than cordial. Mr. Daley Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait presented their latest Scotch vaudeville burlesque, written by Frank Price, and which made such a laughable impression at the London Pavilion some little while back. Miss Lait looked decidedly fetching in her smart sporting garb, and acted most agreeably; whilst Mr. Cooper aroused roars of hearty laughter with his eccentric actions, and novel manipulation of the Scotch kilt. Others that do well are Mr. Charles E. Harvey, a gifted coon impressionist; and that eccentric character comedian, Mr. Harry Cotton. The bioscope films were most clear and interesting, and Mr. Frank Thomas's able band were never at fault.

LOUIS MYERS,
LATE MUSICAL DIRECTOR EMPIRE, LEEDS,
IS STILL CONDUCTING.
SHIP HOTEL, BRIGGATE, LEEDS.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

Edward Marris' Pantomime, entitled
"DICK WHITTINGTON."

Dick Whittington .....Miss Rosie Sylvester
Alice Fitzwarren .....Miss Phyllis Yorke
Polly .....Miss Queenie Warden
Princess Coon .....Miss Dolly Daimler
Lieut. Swank .....Miss Ruby Delamere
Lieut. Dash .....Miss Mabel Firth
Midshipman Kid .....Miss Gertrude Morrow
Captain Bowline .....Mr. Andy Marsh
The Mate .....Mr. George Mumford
Alderman Fitzwarren .....Mr. Fred Pollard
Emperor .....Mr. H. A. Burgon
Thomas .....Mr. Bert Martell
King Rat .....Mr. Roy Clifford
Julia .....Mr Ernest Sefton
Idle Jack .....Mr. Alex Daimler

This week Mr. Harry Bawn is producing his third pantomime for this season, the theme of which is "Dick Whittington," one of the best pantomimes on "the halls." Miss Rosie Sylvester makes an ideal principal boy, and in the character of Alice Miss Phyllis York is graceful and winsome. The principal comedian's part is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Sefton, who is excruciatingly funny as Julia. Mr. Alex Daimler's delineation of Idle Jack gives him ample scope for his eccentric acrobatic dancing. Mr. Andy Marsh and Mr. George Mumford make a great amount of fun as Captain Bowline and his mate respectively; they are particularly good in their "cod simultaneous act." Mr. Bert Martell proves himself a thoroughly capable animal actor as the Cat. Miss Dolly Daimler (Princess C[illegible]) received a regular ovation for her song "Dixie" and neatly executed dance, while the smaller parts of the Emperor, Polly, Lieutenants Swank and Dash, Midshipman Kid, and King Rat were done ample justice to by Mr. H. A. Burgon, Miss Queenie Warden, Miss Ruby Delamere, Miss Mabel Firth, Miss Gertrude Morrow, and Mr. Roy Clifford. Mr. Dan Paulton is unfortunately prevented from appearing as Alderman Fitzwarren, but the part could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Fred Pollard. We must not forget to mention the very favourable impression made by the Queenie Warden Troupe of dancers. During the intermission popular airs are played by Mr. Max Reinhardt, the musical-director, and his capable orchestra. Many of the airs are enthusiastically taken up. Mr. Ainsley, the manager, and his lieutenant, Mr. Walter Norman, are beaming contentedly on crowded houses.

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH.

The programme submitted for the delectation of the patrons of this popular house is one of exceptional brilliance this week. For the top of the bill our most popular English comedienne, Marie Lloyd, is engaged, and the instant her number appeared the audience received it with unmistakable evidence of approval. The artiste was compelled to submit three items ere she was allowed to depart. The favourite number was "The coster girl in Paris," which was received with hearty applause. "The Piccadilly trot" was also vigorously applauded, and the same remark applies to "I wonder why," a song in which "our Marie" is seen to great advantage. The other end of the bill is occupied by those two popular artistes, Jack and Evelyn, in their latest vaudeville quick-lunch, and the menu provided was evidently to the taste of the company present, for laughter rang through the building from the commencement of their performance to the close.

Wm. Berol has a most bewildering mystery in Menetekel, the means employed to enable a ball covered with ink to write upon a sheet of paper, without any apparent mechanical aid, whilst hanging from the top of the stage, is most marvellous, and seems incredible; nevertheless, this is what happens, and the performance is received with undoubted satisfaction. Mignon and Frassettis, in an artistic musical and dancing act, are most capable musicians, their playing of the harp and violin was most artistic, and the solo toe dance of the juvenile member of the trio very cleverly done. This performer is a very clever artiste, and no doubt will make a proud position in her profession. Mr. James Williard and company in the sketch, "The Ace of Hearts," was most capably performed, and duly received the well-merited approval of the audience.

Miss Gwennie Hasto has a tuneful and catchy ditty in "Any old place will do," which the artiste rendered in her usual brilliant manner, but the dance that follows is where she acquits herself with marked ability, and well deserved the applause showered upon her. Mr. Frank Armstrong highly amused the audience in his vocal and protean act; and Pete and Juno are a clever pair of coloured comedians and dancers. The Bioscope threw two excellent films upon the screen, including topical films from the Pathe Gazette.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME

Abundant evidence is forthcoming that Mr. Joe Collins' up-to-date pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is thoroughly to the liking of the habitues of this house—packed houses nightly, and the preponderance of the younger element at the first performances establishes the certainty that it is in every way an ideal pantomime for both young and old, which in these days of specialities is refreshing. The scenery is of the brightest, and all apparently new, as is also the dressing. The Port of Hull, The Ship, Crusoe's Hut, and The Palace Finale are worthy of special mention. Miss Anna Hana plays Crusoe with an American accent and rag-time melodies, which is an innovation, but nevertheless to the liking of the audience, contributing the "Rag-time Goblin man" and "Pucker up your lips," and Miss Tessie Alma is a dainty Polly Hopkins, her best song, "My big hat," being accompanied by a cleverly executed dance.

Dame Crusoe, as portrayed by Mr. Charles Paton, stands alone as a character study, and his songs, "Matrimony" and "No one to harmonise" are very amusing as he works them: the latter song being the cue for some very funny "gagging" business as a concerted quartette (?). Mr. Shaun Desmond plays Will Atkins with just the necessary touch of refinement to distinguish him from the ordinary run of "bold bad villains," and scores with his item, "Woolloomooloo." Messrs. Cluy and Clancy, as Captain and Mate, keep the ball rolling merrily with their efforts, and their "Flanagan" song finishes with a smart and "slick" dance. In the Crusoe Hut scene, Mr. Pete Almonte gives a clever study of a monkey on the rope with expert toe-work, and Mr. MacStuart as Friday is responsible for a grotesque dance of merit. As King of the Cannibals Mr. J. Jordan looks and distinctively acts the part, and Mrs. Amy Amos is a "perky" little Dolly Dimple. Without doubt the opinion expressed by the front of the house is correct and deserved, viz., that it is the best seen at Lewisham up to the present; and Mr. Charles Paton, who is responsible for its production and management, should feel gratified at the reception accorded. He has two most able lieutenants in both his own business-manager, Bert Goodwin (Sub Rosa), and Mr. Robert Smith, who is resident-stage-manager for the back of the house.

THEATRICAL TRAIN IN RAILWAY SMASH.

MARVELLOUS ESCAPES.

Fred Ginnett's "Wild Australia" Company, when travelling to Leicester on Sunday to fulfil a week's engagement at the Palace, was involved in a railway smash at Ettingshall Road, a small station near Wolverhampton.

A special theatrical train, which had left Wolverhampton a few minutes previously for Rugby and Leicester, containing the "Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime company, which had been at the Grand Theatre in that town, and also the "Wild West Australia" company, which had been at the Empire Palace of Varieties, Wolverhampton, pulled up for a few moments at Ettingshall Road Station to take up the members of the "Robinson Crusoe" pantomime company, which had been at Bilston last week.

The guard of the special was closing the remaining doors preparatory to starting when a local train from Wolverhampton to Birmingham dashed into the rear end.

The crash was so severe that the brake van of the special was splintered, and the tender of the on-coming engine, which was running tank first, was ripped open.

The guard had a miraculous escape. In another second he would have been in the wrecked compartment.

Some of the members of the "Wild West" company were not so fortunate. The most serious case is that of John William Freestone, a musician, of 105, Southampton-street, Leicester, who was seen in bed by our local representative. Mr. Freestone, who bears evidence of the violence of the collision, was in a very bad way. He was in a carriage with Mr. Cooper, the bandmaster, who stated that Mr. Freestone was thrown from one side of the compartment to the other, and sustained injuries to the head. Mr. Cooper was saved by falling with his elbows on the opposite side of the carriage.

Miss Bonita, the champion rifle shot of Australia, received a shock and injury to the head. Miss Cleopatra, the snake charmer, received a shock and cut over the right eye, and Mr. Billy Lee, the well-known stock-whip performer, also received injuries to the mouth. Mr. Ginnett carries a goodly number of horses, three of which were found to have sustained injuries, but Bobs, probably the most costly buck-jumper in England, was not injured. Miss Cleopatra had one of her snakes killed.

The horsebox, which contained a number of snakes and crocodiles and a valuable bucking horse known as Cooee, belonging to the Australian company, was telescoped on to the brake van of the local train, the ironwork of the box being snapped. Marvellous to relate, whilst the brake van which formed part of the corridor coach was also smashed, the horsebox was lifted from its wheels and was almost intact. Cooee remained in his box, which was tilted at an angle of 40 deg., from mid-day to half-past five, but he had found where the hay was kept, and was quite comfortable. Cooee was in the train that ran into the theatrical train, having been despatched from Wolverhampton to London.

The company had to return to Wolverhampton for the night, and left by special train at 8.15 on Monday morning for Leicester, where they appeared on Monday evening in spite of all that happened, and, our correspondent adds, "gave a fine show as well."

BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE.

The following is the result of the voting for the new Committee of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution. The names are given according to the number of votes:—

ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS.

Albert Voyce, Ben Obo, W. H. Atlas, Jim Obo, Arthur Gallimore, T. C. Callaghan, Edw. H. Lucas, Stanley J. Damerell, H. Griff, Edw. Crosland, Cecil Rutland, Chas. Gardener, Geo. H. Smythson, Syd. Walker, Horace Wheatley, Tom Packer, Bert Williams, Robert Abel, Martin Henderson, Ken Gallimore, F. W. Millis, Chas. Coborn, A. de Brean, C. Kasrac, Wm. Welsh, J. W. Gallagher, W. E. Gillin, Bert Marsden, Eugene Stratton, and H. Falls.

ELECTED FOR TWO YEARS.

Ben Whiteley, Harry Herald, Julian Mack, H. O. Wills, Harry Bancroft, Burnetti, W. Fullbrook, Bruce Green, Rich. Taylor, Tom E. Conover, H. Gribben, H. Braff, Arthur Rigby, W. Barrett, A. P. Hemsley, Harry Wright, Chris Van Bern, J. Barker, Jack Harris, A. Borelli, Chas. Clark, Ted E. Box, Harold Finden, Albert Le Fre, Edwin Barwick, Lieut. Albini, Sid Baker, Reginald Prince, Cyril Yettmah, and Chas. Grantley.

ELECTED FOR ONE YEAR.

H. Huley, Sam Vincent, Horace White, Fredk. Day, Tom Francis, W. Jackson, Tom Morton, A. Schafer, Marriott Edgar, F. Melvin, Walter Dale, Alf Herald, P. Bijou, Gus Garrick, James Kellino, Dick Bell, Fred McNaughton, Dave O'Toole, Geo. Sandford, Fred Hughes, Seth Egbert, Fred Woellhaf, D. Hendy Clark, Gus McNaughton, Dusty Rhodes, Alf Leonard, Geo. Herd, H. M. Darsie, Fred Parr, and W. Kellino.

NOT ELECTED.

J. W. Rickaby, Bob Leonard, Dave Carter, Steve McCarthy, J. Finney, Cliff Lakey, W. Munroe, Tom Foy, Guy Shanks, Cliff Ryland, Alf Cruikshank, Rowland Hill, Geo. Goodfellow, Tom Woottwell, Carlton, A. Godfrey, Billy Brown, Jan Rudenyi, Monte Bayly, Jack Williams, Alf Martinetti, J. B. Barton, Sid Bandon, Will Poluski (jun.), Jeff Vendome, R. Protti, J. Collinson, F. O'Malley, E. Warsaw, Frank Fort, Harry Jee, Hal Forde, Geo. Manning, R. Brandow, Forest Tell, Edwin Brown, H. A. Griffiths, Harry Herbert, Geo. Newham.

Managers looking for an attraction will do well to see the performance of Angus and Argus during the week of Jan. 6 at the Empire, Edmonton. This is an amalgamation of the most varied talent. Instrumental music, quick changes, and impersonations are the principal features. No expense has been spared in the mounting of the speciality.

There are in Paris, states an American consular report, four theatres which receive subventions from the Government and forty regular theatres which receive no subvention. There are besides twelve large cinematograph theatres, thirty-eight café concerts, eight music halls, ten skating rinks, velodromes, and circuses, among which are included the Magic City and Luna Park, both originally American enterprises; six permanent balls or dancing places, including the Bal Tabarin, Bullier, and Moulin Rouge, and finally three classical concerts—the Concert Lamoureaux, Colonne, and the Conservatoire; in all 121 regular places of amusement.

The total receipts collected during 1911 by these various places of amusement exceeded £2,200,000. The poor fund benefited to the extent of £240,000. The steady growth of Paris, and the devotion of its people and the constant throng of foreign visitors to theatrical and musical entertainments are shown by the fact that the receipts of 1911 from these sources exceeded those of any previous year, not excepting even the years 1878, 1889, and 1900, when international expositions of world-wide interest were held in Paris.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

"Othello," Shakespeare's tragedy condensed; Middlesex, Dec. 2.
"Check to the Queen," dramatic episode; Tivoli, Dec. 2.
"Biff," comedy sketch, by F. Kinsey Peile; Tivoli, Dec. 2.
"The Visit of the King," Scottish comedy, in one act, by Edward Verrall Lucas; Palace Theatre, Dec. 2.
"The Open Question," dramatic episode, by F. B. Wyngate; Oxford, Dec. 7.
"The Merry Wives of Windsor," Shakespeare's comedy condensed; Middlesex, Dec. 9.
"All You See the Silvery Sea" ("The Seaside Revue"); Southampton Hippodrome, Dec. 9.
"Life in the Wild Bush," Colonial sketch; Surrey, Dec. 9.
"The Sacrifice," allegorical idyll, by Francis Bohr; Palladium, Dec. 9.
"The Lodgers," Scottish character sketch, by Charles Hannan; London Pavilion, Dec. 9.
"The Harem Lily," Oriental operetta, by Paul Lincke, English version and lyrics by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick; London Pavilion, Dec. 9.
"For Valour," sketch, by Sydney Mason; Empire, Shoreditch, Dec. 9.
"The Persian Slave," Arabian episode, by Sidney Blow and Douglas Hoare; Kilburn Empire, Dec. 9.
"The Flag Lieutenant," naval play, in four acts, by Major W. P. Drury and Leo Trevor (Playhouse, June 16, 1908); Palladium, Dec. 9.
"Cinderella," pantomime, in nine scenes, presented by Duncan and Godfrey; Middlesex, Dec. 16.
"Pebbles on the Beach," musical farce, by Seymour Hicks; Coliseum, Dec. 16.
"Bluebottles," comedy sketch, by Herbert C. Sargent; Brighton Hippodrome, Dec. 16.
"The Hollow Baby," comedy sketch; Holborn Empire, Dec. 16.
"Aladdin," pantomime; Surrey, Dec. 16.
"Would You Hang Him?" problem drama, in four scenes, by Frederick Moule; Bow Palace, Dec. 16.
"Whittington," pantomime, by Edward Marris; Camberwell Empire, Dec. 16.
"The Smuggler," water drama, in five scenes, invented and arranged by Albert Hengler; Hippodrome, Manchester, Dec. 16.
"State Insurance," comedy sketch, by W. H. Perrette; Grand Theatre, Manchester, Dec. 16.
"Mother Goose," pantomime; Walthamstow Palace, Dec. 23.
"Cinderella," pantomime; Tottenham Palace, Dec. 23.
"Aladdin," pantomime; Lewisham Hippodrome, Dec. 23.
"Robinson Crusoe," pantomime; Ealing Hippodrome, Dec. 23.
"Sinbad the Sailor," pantomime; Chelsea Palace, Dec. 23.
"Cinderella," pantomime, by Fred S. Jennings; Euston, Dec. 23.
"Babes in the Wood," pantomime; East Ham Palace, Dec. 23.

PIRATED PANTOMIME SONGS.

Pirated songs on an extensive scale have been selling at Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, and Liverpool, and at Leeds on Wednesday there was an important prosecution for an infringement of the Musical Copyright Act of 1911, when William Silcock, of Meanwood Street, a printer, was summoned by Mr. Felix McGlennon, song-writer and director of the firm of Felix McGlennon, Ltd., printers, of Fleet Street, London, for an infringement of the Act.

Mr. Arthur Willey, who prosecuted, stated that the firm had bought for a large sum the right to print the word matter of various songs published by Francis, Day and Hunter, who paid large amounts to the composers and authors of the songs. When defendant was arrested, there were found on his premises nineteen different songs of which Mr. McGlennon's firm held the exclusive rights. Plates were also found, and the printing was going on. It was stated that 700 gross had been printed.

Mr. Felix McGlennon said he held the copyright of these songs, and had distributing agents all over the country. He found 7,000 copies of the illicit prints at the defendant's shop.

Edward Dickinson, hawker, said he had sold songs and books printed by the defendant, and had paid him 1s. 3d. a gross for folded pamphlets, and 1s. 1½d. a gross unfolded. Since he started he had sold 160 gross.

Inspector Bradley said defendant stated that he had printed 600 gross altogether. He had a further order for 100 gross, but was giving up when he had finished those, as he did not want to get into trouble.

Defendant said he was ignorant of the copyright law. He had been a printer for twenty-five years, and his business consisted mostly of religious work. The song printing was "slap-dash" work, and he did not put his name on it.

The magistrates imposed a fine of 1d. per copy for the 7,000 copies found, and made an order for the confiscation of the plates, etc., and placed the costs at £5. In default defendant would have to go to prison for a month.

The Salisbury Palace has just been entirely redecorated, the prevailing colours being cream and white. The house looks most dainty in its new dress, and a sloping floor which has been installed enables patrons in all parts of the house to have an excellent view of the stage. Crowded houses are being drawn by the liberal fare provided.

The Theatre de Luxe in the High-road, Balham, owned by the Grand Cinema (London) Circuits, Ltd., has just undergone a complete transformation, having been extensively reconstructed and redecorated, and furnished afresh. The work has been carried out under the direction of Messrs. Deakin and Cameron, the well-known architects, of Devonshire-square, City. The theatre accommodates 800 people, and is under the management of Mr. E. J. Rankin.

On Monday and Tuesday of last week the staff of the Theatre Royal, Ryde, received a Christmas benefit, the proceeds of the two nights' picture entertainment being divided between them. On the Monday afternoon all the school children of the town were invited to a free show by the management, and the responsible teachers were afterwards entertained at tea. This generosity on the part of the lessee and manager, Mr. H. Terry Wood should tend to increase his already well-deserved popularity.

The "Daily Chronicle" is responsible for the statement that the late Mr. Gladstone was not only a rapt listener to the Christy Minstrels, but became quite enthusiastic about negro melodies, singing them with the greatest spirit and enjoyment. The Grand Old Man liked the lilt of "Camptown Races." His successor in the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George, has an affection for "Poor old Joe," the verses of which might be interpreted into a lament for the palmy days of debate, when Joey Chamberlain, now a septuagenarian, was a power in the House. Then the dispenser of "rare and refreshing fruit" had not quite "arrived." The popular vocalist of the Commons is honest Will Crooks, who has not yet submitted to the blandishments of the variety agent.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE KILBU[illegible] EMPIRE.

Prince Florizel .....Miss Jessie Wil[illegible]
Dandini .....Miss Hilda Mas[illegible]
Ajax, Baron Lackland .....Mr. Rob Gilm[illegible]
Cinderella .....Miss Molly Mo[illegible]
Winnie .....Mr. Fred Spen[illegible]
Melpomene .....Miss Louie Tins[illegible]
Mehitable .....Miss Yonne Schofie[illegible]
Williams .....Mr. Chas. W. Gord[illegible]
Fairy Godmother .....Miss Dorothy Cla[illegible]

At a time when pantomime reigns supreme it would not be right that our very own Kilburn Empire should be without such an attraction, and for this week Mr. Joe Collins's Grand Panto[illegible] Company holds the boards. It requires [illegible] efforts at compression to enable a pantomime to be played in its entirety twice nightly, but Mr. Collins has been able to surmount this difficulty by giving a concise history of Cinderella as to children understand it from their story-book and with the amusing antics of the comedians and the sweet singing of the hero and heroine a worthy production is evolved. In scene 1, the Haunted Corridor, the children are given the choice of subjects by the Fairy Godmother, and at once choose "Cinderella," whereon we are instantly transported to the woodland glade where the Prince Florizel, out hunting, meets Cinderella, who is gathering firewood for her home where she is utilised as a drudge by her stepmother and ugly sisters. The Prince and Dandini, his valet, change places, and in the guise the former makes love to Cinderella, who returns it. The Ugly Sisters appear, and, mistaking Dandini for the Prince, make for him. He invites them all to the ball, and they accept, of course leaving out Cinderella, who is to be left at home. In the Kitchen scene (scene 4) Cinderella bewails her fate, and begs her mother to let her go, but all to no purpose, and she is kept at work assisting her mother and her sisters, in most amusing fashion, to complete their toilets. After they have gone, the Fairy Godmother appears, and, ascertaining her wish, dresses Cinderella in gorgeous raiment, and in a beautiful glass coach she leaves for the ball, first being instructed that she must be home by midnight. At the ball (scene 6) she meets the Prince, who assumes his proper place, and informs her that she is very like a maid he loves, and all is going well when the clock strikes twelve, and Cinderella runs away, leaving her glass slipper behind her. The Prince issues a proclamation that he will wed her whom the shoe fits, and in the course of time Cinderella is found to be the owner, and in scene 8 we have Cinderella's wedding.

In the part of Prince Florizel we have nothing but admiration for Miss Jessie Wilton, who looks handsome, and has a dashing and fascinating way with her, singing her songs with much spirit and acting with good effect. Miss Hilda Mascot makes an active and perky Dandini, singing and acting excellently. An exceedingly droll comedian is Mr. Rob Gilmore, who as Ajax, Baron Lackland, makes the house roar with laughter, his diminutive appearance being of material assistance. Miss Molly Moore makes a most charming Cinderella, acting and singing delightfully. As Winnie, the Baron's second wife, Mr. Fred Spencer is quaintly funny. The Ugly Sisters, Melpomene and Mehitable, are both ludicrously undertaken by Miss Louie Tinsley and Miss Yonne Schofield, creating much amusement. The flunkey, Williams, enables Mr. Charles W. Gordon to perpetrate some funny jokes, and one can only regret that his efforts are not made more use of, but evidently time will not allow of such. A pretty Fairy Godmother is Miss Dorothy Clarke, who does well what is required from her. The chorus is bright and animated, and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Hubert Sallemann, render the music very capably. The dresses and scenery are really works of art.

"THE MIRACLE" AT COVENT GARDEN.

The remarkable cinematographic production of "The Miracle" at Covent Garden Theatre had at the outset the disadvantage of being presented in the few "dull days" immediately preceding Christmas. It is agreeable to record that this wonderful play (which contains so many attractive artistic features not included in the original production at Olympia) is now drawing large audiences to the Opera House. Humperdinck's beautiful and melodious music is most impressively rendered by the orchestra, assisted by a choir of 100 voices. The business-manager for "The Miracle" is Mr. George Unwin, who has not spared himself in his efforts to bring about the success which is now attending the production.

The Twelve Little Sunshines trained by Mlle. Pauline Rivers include Little Emmie, quite a miniature Taglioni, and they are a great success.

Many members of the fraternity of Water Rats were at Waterloo Station on Saturday to wish bon voyage to James Finney, who was leaving for South Africa, where he and his daughter have been booked in the Hyman interests. Charles Austin, Eugene Stratton, Dave Carter, Dave O'Toole, Jack Lotto, A. Cruikshank, and Jack Collinson were amongst the friends on the platform.

The Hackney Furnishing Co., Ltd., of Oxford-street, London, W., are offering attractive facilities to actors and actresses wishing to furnish at short notice complete and attractive town flats. Any furniture which is selected can be obtained on extremely easy terms of payment, and the company is desirous of getting into communication with anyone who would care to have an inclusive estimate from them for furnishing the town flat in the latest style.

The Stoll suburban theatres.—Mr. Charles Austin and company in "The Bombshell," Little Ganty, Mlle. Marjutti, the beautiful contortionist, and Tom Costello are due at Hackney Empire on Monday. Joe Peterman's company in "Flyaway's Derby," Beth Tate (the charming American comedienne), Moran and Wiser (boomerang and hat throwers), are some of the principals at Shepherd's Bush Empire. At Chiswick Empire Ernie Lotinga and company in "Bluebottles," Hayman and Franklin (the American entertainers), and Fred Storey and Co. in "Rip Van Winkle" will be seen on Monday; while at Wood Green Empire the pantomime "Aladdin" will be staged.

The kiddies at the Great Ormond-street Hospital had a good time on Friday evening, when Mr. Fred Trussell, the manager of the London Hippodrome, organised a first-class entertainment for their benefit. The convalescents and out-patients, inmates and their parents were included among the audience, the company numbering some 600. Among those who took part in the entertainment were Mr. W. Trussell, jun. (pianist and accompanist), Mr. Richmond Roxburghe (a capital bass-baritone), the droll Van Der Koors (with their spoof thought-reading duck), Mr. Henry Hilton (who came from Bath to give an exhibition of conjuring), Little Miss Irene Richards (the clever child actress and dancer), Willie Solar (the comedian from the States), and Mr. F. O'Flynn (one of our finest banjoists, who travelled from Bristol to help the good cause). Nurses Disher and Rust were in charge of the juvenile patients, and Mr. James McKay, assistant secretary of the hospital, was Master of the Ceremonies.

[illegible] H. [illegible] and Forth[illegible] [illegible]ring-M[illegible] Mr. [illegible]ril Smith. M[illegible]
[illegible]as. [illegible]e [illegible]il Theatres Co., [illegible]; Secretary and [illegible]nee, Wednesday and Satur[illegible] at 2.30.

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FILM GOSSIP.

um Smugglers.

thrilling and finely pictured story, written produced by William Duncan, and released y the Selig Polyscope company on Jan. 9, is 'Opium smugglers." It deals with the line iders of the North-West. The line riders are a body of men whose duties are similar to those of the famous Texas rangers along the Mexican line. The range is the wildest portion of the great North-West country, and they ride the imaginary line that separates the United States rom the Dominion of Canada. In the discharge of their duties they are brought into active conact with the most desperate criminals. The particular incident upon which this story is based deals with opium smuggling, and shows how Captain Bob MacDonald, after having run the smugglers down, falls a victim to a carefully laid plot to put him out of the way. He is accused by one of his captives of having deliberately murdered his partner. Kitty Wells, a young homesteader, whom Bob is deeply interested in, sends for him with the intention of turning him over to the Canadian authorities. Bob comes to her and she relieves him of his gun. She, however, is convinced that Bob is not a cowardly murderer when he shows her the wounds that he had received in the gun fight. As she is about to return his gun, one of the smugglers who had escaped and had been following Bob, enters the room and tries to kill him. After a desperate struggle Bob manages to disarm and arrest him. Eventually it is discovered that the evidence against Bob had been trumped up by the dead smuggler. Kitty's confidence is restored, and she gives Bob her hand in a good strong grip of friendship. 1,016ft.

Proposed Picture Theatre for Peasedown, near Bath.

On Saturday last, before the County Police agistrates at Bath, Mr. Sydney Milles made an pplication for a cinematograph licence for a hall Peasedown, a populous mining district near h. The Bench, after examining the plans, were the opinion that another exit should be provided, and, subject to this being carried out, a six days' licence was granted. Mr. Milles has long been connected with the Sanger's and Bostock enterprises.

Presentation to a Popular Manager.

Mr. Randolph E. Richards, manager of the Olympia Picture Theatre, Queen-street, Cardiff, was recently presented with a beautiful oak smoking cabinet as a token of appreciation. The presentation was made on behalf of the subscribers by Mr. C. E. Wadley, who spoke in warm terms of Mr. Richards. Mr. Wadley was supported by Messrs. J. H. Johnson, Henry Rowles, R. E. Morris, F. H. Simpson, T. Jenkins, G. Naish, and members of the staff.

Palace, Aldershot.

At this capacious hall excellent films are being shown, and full houses are appreciating the efforts of the management to provide a long and varied entertainment. Special effects are introduced to synchronise with the pictures, very realistic results being obtained, even the "swishing" of the waves being audible. The interior decoration of the hall is magnificent, and, taking into account the fact that but fourteen weeks were occupied in its erection, it must, indeed, be considered unique.

For a Rainy Day.

On Christmas Eve after the "show" at the Windsor Electric Theatre, Woolwich, the staff, male and female, called the manager, Mr. William McWilliam, up to the platform, when the musical-director, Mr. Tom Saunders, in a pithy little speech, asked Mr. McWilliam's acceptance of an umbrella as a mark of their appreciation. Taken completely by surprise, "Mac" was for the moment at a loss for words, but thanked all the boys and girls for their support and co-operation, without which he could not have made the Windsor the success it is. The umbrella, heavily mounted, bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. William McWilliam by the staff, Windsor Electric Theatre, Woolwich, Christmas, 1912."

Palladium, Lichfield.

The recently converted St. James's Hall, Lichfield, was opened to the public as the Lichfield Palladium on Monday in last week, and judging from the success of the shows the new proprietor, Mr. Thornburn, can be cordially congratulated on his venture. The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayor, and the chairman of the local hospital, to which institution the receipts of the night were given by Mr. Thornburn, addressed a crowded audience in returning the thanks of his committee and wishing success to the venture. The hall has been excellently adapted and very prettily decorated, in addition to which the films are of the first order and the music excellent. Mr. Thornburn will entertain the application of touring theatrical companies.

New Electric Theatre, Norwich.

The New Electric Theatre, Prince of Wales-road, Norwich, was opened on Boxing Day, and has proved a source of delight to all who have visited it. It is magnificently decorated and furnished throughout, everything seemingly having been done for the comfort of its patrons, and it reflects the highest credit upon the architect, Mr. F. Burdett Ward, M.S.A., of Wisbech, and the builder, Mr. W. J. Hannent, of Norwich. Mr. F. Holmes Cooper deserves the thanks of the citizens for providing so handsome a place of entertainment upon which he has spared no expense, and under the courteous management of Mr. G. F. Alleh it should be a gigantic success. The entertainment includes pictures and variety.

Arcadia, Swindon.

A new picture palace, to be known as the Arcadia Picture Palace, was opened on Monday, the 23rd ult. The Palace is elegantly constructed, and occupies the site of the Regent Arcade, the interior of which has been completely demolished. It has seating accommodation for about 800, and is fitted with all the latest appliances. The heating arrangements are up to date, and every consideration has been given to the safety and comfort of patrons. Colonel T. C. P. Calley, C.B., M.V.O., performed the opening ceremony, and congratulated the company upon its undertaking. The managing-director is Mr. E. J. Cook, and the resident-manager Mr. D. B. Jepson, whose experience is extensive, and if last week's programme is an indication of what is to follow, his efforts will be rewarded by full houses. During the opening week a fine three-part film, "Detective Brown," and "Broncho Bill outwitted" were shown, and this week the exclusive films are "The fortune hunter" and "The death sentence."

Trafalgar Cinema, Greenwich.

The above, the latest of the South London picture palaces, situated in Trafalgar-road, Greenwich, was opened on Boxing Day, and has since been doing record business. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week, some interesting and instructive films were shown, including "Cinderella," "Just Maine folk," and "Quarrying iron ore." No expense has been spared in making this hall one of the most up-to-date and luxurious of its kind. The dome-shaped vestibule is daintily furnished with velvet lounges. The hall itself is fitted throughout with green velvet tip-up seats, capable of accommodating 1,000 people, and the artistic decorations inside and out are much admired. As manager, the Greenwich Picture Theatre, Ltd., have appointed Mr. A. G. Brown.

Blue Hall, Hammersmith.

The last word in picture palaces is the Blue Hall, situated in King Street, Hammersmith. The stage and proscenium is decorated in cream and gold, and on either side of it is an exit, while above are a couple of clocks indicating the time. Throughout there is a distinct artistic suggestion; the auditorium has comfortable seating accommodation and a fine "rake," so that the view is always excellent.

There is a fine dress circle, with cosy tip-up chairs, and everywhere there are beautiful, æsthetic tints, and nothing garish or outré to outrage the artistic temperament. A delightful lounge, handsomely furnished, is one of the features, while the lighting arrangement is unique. Mr. Stanley H. Twitcher is the experienced manager, and is essentially the right man in the right place. The orchestra reflects considerable credit on the musical director, N. Baker; and the general programme includes "first releases" of all the modern cinema pictures. The general public evidently appreciate the Blue Hall; on the occasion of our visit it was packed from floor to ceiling, which augurs well for its future.

Film Censor.

Mr. G. A. Redford, the former Examiner of Plays, began his duties as film censor on Wednesday, with a staff of four examiners. A suite of spacious rooms in Shaftesbury Avenue has been acquired by the British Board of Film Censors, which will henceforth sit in judgment on all cinematograph pictures for exhibition at theatres in the United Kingdom, whether manufactured here or abroad. The examiners will review all films, and in the event of any objectionable feature being found, the matter will at once be reported to Mr. Redford. His decision will be final, but manufacturers will have the opportunity of eliminating any objectionable features, it being the intention of the censor to co-operate as far as possible with the film producers.

Mr. Will Anderton, the popular manager of the Arcade Theatre, Stirling, was educated for the Church at Durham University, but, relinquishing the idea of wearing a surplice as a divine, he shortly donned the uniform of a second lieutenant in the Royal Irish Rifles. This, seemingly, not appealing to his taste as a profession, he turned his thoughts theatrical-wise, his career on the boards since 1900 being a varied one. It is rather a strange coincidence that he should have been on tour with Miss Estelle Stead's Shakespearean Company when the Titanic went down with Miss Stead's father. He has toured all over England, going on journeys from the east to the west and north to south, and has thus acquired considerable experience. Previous to his appointment in Stirling he was assistant manager to Mr. Rene Clayton, of the Hippodrome, Hamilton, one of Mr. E. H. Bostock's syndicate halls. Already he is a firm favourite with Stirling audiences, catering to their wants in a most judicious manner, and his consideration for artistes is such that they find the Arcade a comfortable little theatre, with every convenience at their disposal. Mr. Anderton has the "ball at his feet," and we wish him every success. As a picture expert his choice of subjects warrants public approval; his high moral tone and educational ideals make him the right man in the right place. Mr. Fred. Newman, the lessee, is to be congratulated in making this appointment.

Mr. E. Gilmore Bradshaw, the genial secretary and manager of the West End Pier, Morecambe, has taken Messrs. Calvert Routledge's Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness, on a short lease, and opened it on New Year's Day with a one house per night show of star animated pictures.

PAUL J. RAINEY'S AFRICAN HUNT.

Commencing on Monday afternoon, Jan. 13, at 3 p.m., the entertainment known as Paul J. Rainey's African Hunt will be given daily at the Holborn Empire. These marvellous motion pictures have made a triumphant success in the United States, and are still running for their eleventh month on Broadway, while there are eight touring companies on the road. The films depict how beasts of prey are pursued, trapped, and captured in the jungles of British East Africa, and are graphically described by an interesting lecture.

So many different wild animals in their native haunts are seen in these pictures that enumeration is almost impossible. A herd of elephants is shown feeding; rhinoceroses are seen fighting in deadly earnest; baboons and monkeys are revealed at play; giraffes, zebras, gazelles, and, in fact, all the denizens of the jungle move about in these motion pictures exactly as they do in their native state.

A remarkable film is one which shows the pursuit and conquest of a cheetah by a pack of hounds. In another film the same hounds are seen running to earth a lion. But the film which has caused the most discussion, and one for which Mr. Rainey has been commended by many scientific bodies, is that which depicts the Waterhole, where at the same time can be seen as many as a dozen wild animals of different kinds, from the largest of them all—the elephant—to the very smallest—the steinbuck.

We understand that the part of Middy in J. Collins' company, "Sinbad the Sailor," at Hippodrome, Willesden, was taken last week, and will in future be filled, by Aline Flower Sercombe, not by Harriet Ware as billed.

The Southend-on-Sea Corporation invite tenders for the privilege of placing automatic machines on or near the Southend Pier during the period of three years from March 26, 1913, to March 25, 1916. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tender for Automatic Machines," to be delivered on or before Jan. 22 to Mr. H. J. Worwood, Town Clerk, Southend-on-Sea.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 8.)

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessees, Messrs. G. P. Fenton, T. Durwin, and Victor Branford; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Lynch.—This week (twice nightly): Beethoven; pictures.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; Manager, Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Messrs. A. Fitzmaurice and R. Lord's company in "The Ragged Patriot"; Wesley and Leslie, duettists; Hicks and Yorke, in "The Lady and the Gent"; Amantos, in speciality; Ryan and Hall, the sleepy comedians; and pictures.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. Will Taylor's company in "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Harry Monkhouse, Mr. Edward Boddy, Mr. A. Cure, Mr. A. Herbert, Mr. H. Carsbad, Mr. O. Gregory, Mr. Gipsy Toozeau, Mr. H. Persand, Miss Lulu Bowes, Miss Sadie Yost, Miss Mamie Watson, and Miss Gloria Laurence.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—This week: Miss Pamela Moore's company in "The Bank Robbery"; the Great Bosanquet; Rose and Wold; Blodwen Butcher; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Green and Winsford present "The Pride of the Prairie." The company includes: Mr. Graham Winsford, Mr. William Hayes, Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, Mr. Percy Morton Wright, Mr. Arthur Duval, Mr. Harry Sidney, Mr. Henry Goodier, Mr. C. Young Fixott, Mr. William Cann, Mr. J. J. Stadden, Mr. G. Leslie Buxton, Mr. Walter Hicks, Mr. Cecil Harding, Mr. Ling Treherne, Mr. Leonard Gardener, Mr. Frank Shirley, Mr. Jack Entwistle, Mr. Ben Batty, Mr. Ernest Williams, Mr. Henry Hurst, Mr. Fred Horning, Mr. Julius Werner, Mr. Alfred Sooper, Miss Etta Delamere, Miss Elsie Dene, Miss Mary Pitcairn, and Miss Ethel Bickham. Matinée, Tuesday and Wednesday, 2.15. Next week: "Aladdin."

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow; Musical-Director, Mr. Jas. H. Halkyard.—Second week of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in "Babes in the Wood."

COLOSSEUM.—Proprietors, the Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Dobie; Cicerone and Lecturer, Mr. Harry Young.—This week: The Four Tressillians, in gymnastic act; Les Napiers, gymnastic jugglers; Daisy Caulder, comedienne and dancer; Marjorie and Maude, in song and dance; and pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, the Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—This week: Moran and Wiser, comedy hat-throwers; Geo. D'Albert, light comedian; Misses Lytton and De Silva, duettists; Donnas Trio, equilibrists and gymnasts; Amasis, conjurer; Angers and Escott, comedy artistes; Cissy Madcap and May, acrobats and dancers; Genochi, bird and animal imitator; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Gaston.—This week: Charles Gaston, in illustrated song scena, and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Milton Bode is this week giving us a variety entertainment, which is certainly one of the best we have had here. The strong programme includes: The Princess D'Aryaba, in her beautiful dancing scena, "La Sylphe," introducing La Zafra, a young and pretty toe-dancer, assisted by Mlle. Nova; A. U. Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters, in their vocal and harmony act; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; the Seymons, equilibrists; A. G. Spry, comedian and dancer; Lily Farrar, in the song scena, "Our Lady of the Lamp"; and Margaret Ogilvie, comedienne. Next Monday Mr. Milton Bode's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," commences a week's engagement here, after which the term's regular theatrical season begins.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. George Leyton and H. L. Seddon; Manager, Mr. P. Leonard.—This week (twice nightly): Con Colyer, in "Pot-Pourri Par Excellence"; Connie Mascot, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. C. Adolf Seebold and Matt Melrose present "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Lalla Melrose, Miss Rita Moya, Miss May Bechstein, Miss Nina Bechstein, Miss Renée Ashley, Mr. Fisher Jones, Mr. Tom Maynard, Mr. Leslie Conway, Mr. Barrie Burns, Mr. Alf Jerome, Mr. Perce Jerome, and Mr. Matt Melrose. Touring-Manager, Mr. Ernest St. John. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Musical-Director, Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Barton and Ashley, the breezy Americans; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Australian trick cyclists; Charles Prelle's bijou circus; King Louis and partner, acrobats and equilibrists; J. A. Wilson, comedian, and his wonderful dog performer; Lieut. Gordon, ventriloquist and animal mimic; Parks and Price, instrumentalists; Edna Zora, in scena, "The Garden of Music"; and pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "The Mousmé." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Glenny, Mr. Guy Buckland, Mr. Eric Barrington, Mr. Joseph Victor, Mr. John E. Swinbourne, Mr. G. Gibb McLauchlan, Mr. Arthur Elgar, Mr. Wallace Myles, Mr. Edwin Dodds, Miss Ruth Wynne, Miss Cynthia Eckert, Miss Maie Jeune, Miss Peggy O'Mara, Miss May Coleman, Miss Eva Brickwell, Miss Cicely Munro, Miss Dorothy Doveton, Miss Daisy Buckland, Miss Kathleen Cottor, Miss Phyllis Hughes, Miss Constance Garret. Touring-Manager, Mr. Andrew W. Spens. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Cinderella."

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Twice nightly: Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in "The Gay Gordons." Reginald Sharland, Richard Teasdale, W. H. Desmond, J. B. Gordon, F. Liddington, Gerald O'Connor, James Duval, Eric Ford, Phillip Maitland, John Fant, E. M. Williams, Emily Mellon, Edie Martin, Ruby Louis, Nellie Beacon, Rene Ash, Cherry Hamilton, and Connie Clive. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "A Fatal Wedding."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Fred Karno's Co. in "The Hydro," including Syd Chaplin as Nick Sharp, R. J. Hamer as Col. Bagshott, Miss Lily Griffen as Mrs. Bagshott, J. W. Richards as Lord Markington, Miss K. Birkbeck as Nurse Raymond, Lonnie Dormer as Billy Bilks, Miss Constance Carmen as Sylvia de Grey, and A. Gulliver as the Mad Actor; Flo Cecil, comedienne; Lawrence Barclay, comedian; Louis J. Seymour, light comedian; Fanny Howard and partner, with acrobatic dog, in speciality number; the Goodalls, double somersault artistes; Lennard, the adroit humorist; and Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan, Hebrew comedians.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—"Jack and Jill" is now in the second week and growing in favour nightly; the performance goes with a swing from start to finish. Miss Lily Leonhard (Jack) is one of the principal favourites, and her song, "There's something in the seaside air," is applauded nightly. The Two Anartos, as the Dame and Walker, are wonderfully successful, their Suffrage duologue amusing greatly. Mr. Austin Jerome as King Thomas, with plenty of jokes Miss Gertrude Corneille (Prince Horby), Miss Indiana Lindsay (Jill), Miss Edna Lyall (the Fairy), and the Three Buckleys and a highly effective chorus constitute this year's panto a great success.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—A specially attractive programme is submitted this week, and packed houses are the result. Top of the bill is Miss Ruth Vincent, whose singing met with flattering reception, her accompanist being Mr. Victor Marmont. Rinaldo almost compels his violin to speak; the audience are kept in roars of laughter by Charlie Bell and company, in his absurdity, "The Photographer"; in "A Bit of Everything" Lottie Belman and S. T. Poluski introduced lots of fun; Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre, introducing "The Turkey Trot," was quite a novelty in its way; the costumed Siberian dancers, the Jackolew Trio, were an attractive turn; Miss Lorna and Toots Pounds are clever mimics and vocalists; Mann and Franks present an amusing comedy novelty, "From the Sublime to the Ridiculous"; Chas. Elstree has a wonderful voice, and was loudly applauded; and the pictures illustrating the havoc caused by the recent gales at Southsea were particularly interesting.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.—"The Monk and the Woman" is appearing again this week with great success.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—Mr. Edward Marris's bright and breezy pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," is a draw here, and received with hearty laughter and applause. Miss Bessie Esmond makes a handsome Prince Charming, and the title-rôle is attractively presented by Miss Florrie Arthur; a pretty village maiden is seen in Miss Jessica Brook; Miss Gwen Clifford is a comedienne of ability, and plays the character of Tommy Tucker with great success; the Fairy Sunshine has a pretty representative in Miss Jessie Ewart, who is the recipient of considerable applause for her rendering of "The garden of love." The comedians and principal fun makers are the Bernharts, as Tommy Green and Johnny Stout, J. C. Morris as Dame Trot, and the bold bad Squire Mr. Harwood Cooper. The Martells are expert dancers, and made up as the Wolf, the Gee Gee, and the Pickwick Doll. Specialities were likewise provided by the Eight Model Maids and the Society Quartette. The panto. was comprised within nine scenes, and a pretty bevy of chorus ladies effectively contributed to the general success.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The famous acrobatics, the Craggs, head a capital bill here; Lyons and Cullum, America's versatile couple, make a successful first appearance; Stewart and Morgan are heard to much advantage in harmonising Scotch ballads; Harry Luck is amusing in three comic numbers; and the Paget Trio of expert concertina performers are well received.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager for Corporation, Mr. F. G. Robson.—Although three pantomimes are running here, Mr. Chas. Heslop's production, "Robinson Crusoe," is proving a great attraction here, and there is but one opinion—the entertainment is thoroughly enjoyable. Fun ad lib is supplied by Mr. Leslie Hollwood as Mrs. Chrystabel Crusoe, and is generously supported by Mr. Heslop, the librettist, as Billy Crusoe. Most capable is Miss Beatrice Read as principal boy. She sings her numbers in good style, as does also Miss Maidie Field, the principal girl, Peggy Prue. Grant and Kelly, clever comedians, keep the fun going, and a typical pirate, Will Atkins, is impersonated by Chas. Stacey.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week, Mr. George Dance's Co., in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Frank H. Crimp, Mr. Fred Monti, Mr. G. McCloskie, Mr. Fred Hobbs, Mr. Henry Adnes, Mr. J. Lennox, Mr. John Duncan, Mr. Glen Owen, Mr. Wm. Greene, Miss Hilda Stuart, Miss Doris Dennis, Miss Ivy Harcourt, Miss Jenny Armstrong, Miss May Marshall, Miss Kitty Develin, Miss Lucille Vivien, Miss Lily Green, Miss Cissie Guiver, Miss Hilda Bellamy, Miss Ida Harvey, Miss Adela Crispin. Matinée, New Year's Day. Next week: "The Arcadians."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—This week: "Kit Carson, the Blind Detective."—The company includes: Mr. John S. Millward, Mr. Chas. H. Longden, Mr. Edward Vivian, Mr. Henry Deane, Mr. Victor Knight, Mr Bernard Liell, Mr. W. Leighton, Mr. Bert Hacking, Mr. Stanley Wilton, Miss Jennie Weston, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh, Miss Marie Longden, Miss Georgette Thierry. Matinées, New Year's Day and Thursday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Musical-Director, Mr. Robert Peel.—This week. Lew Lake and company in comedy sketch, "In the Bull Rushes"; Tom E. Finglass, the cowboy coon; Guest and Newlyn, conversationalists; the Six Donovans, in musical act;

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EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edwin Bush; General-Manager, Mr. Alan W. Young; Musical-Director, Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: Jack Lorimer, the Scottish entertainer; Dorsch and Russell, the "musical railroader"; the Villons, comedy cyclists and eccentrics; the Gascoignes, in comedy juggling act; the D nisons, song and dance duo; Newman and Roy , in novel ventriloquism; Master David Paget, the boy violinist; the Vedras, eccentric acrobats; and the Bioscope. Twice nightly, and Monday and Wednesday matinées.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Testo Sante; Manager, Mr. R. Vaughan.—This week (once nightly): "Claudian." The company includes: Mr. William Maclaren, Mr. Ulick Burke, Mr. Basil Mitchell, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Mr. Cecil Maynard, Messrs. Lovell and Boyce, Mr. Pat Branigan, Mr. Dudley Herbert, Miss Pamela Hodson, Miss Ida Crofte, Miss Mona Crofte, Miss Rose Moore, Miss Amy Forbes, Miss Merwal Rosebrook, Miss Lily C. Bandmann. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. J. Attack; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Garricks, vocalists; Miss Edna Cragge, comedienne; Allan and Hart, comedy duo; J. C. Hinkins, comedian; Hassan, illusionist; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here this week in "The Night Side of London." The company includes: Miss Mary Mallalieu, Miss Madge Heyton, Miss Vera Grafton, Miss Kitty Melville, Miss M. Kitts, Miss Marie L. Cotton, Miss L. Moure, Mr. Terrance Byron, Mr. Alfred Maurice, Mr. Leslie Lingham, Mr. James Hussey, Mr. Alec Gowan, Mr. Hall Eldin, and Mr. Oscar Power. Next week: Chung Ling Soo.

ROYAL PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Albert Wilkinson.—This week: Mr. Charles March, in quick-change scena; and Master Gordon Brown, vocalist.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton.—This week: Mr. George Dance's Co. in "The Whip." Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: Mr. Charles Constant's pantomime. "Aladdin."

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Barnold's Dog and Monkey Actors; Arthur Canwort, vocalist and instrumentalist; Four Blairs, wooden-shoe dancers; Shirley and Ransome, in "The Separation Order"; Billy Brown, violinist; Lillie Langley and Molly Maguire, in musical act; Tilbury and Vere, in vocal harmony; Belle Davis and Her Cracker Jacks.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: Mr. J. F. Elliston's company presents "The Goose with the Golden Eggs." Next week: "Cinderella."

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Jackson Family; Manager, Mr. James Jackson, senr.—This week: Fred Karno's company of comedians present "Wakes Week" and "Perkins, M.P."; Colman Irving, comedian, eccentric dancer and baton manipulator; the Whittakers, in burlesque, entitled "Dick Whittington"; Seven Muscatels, in vaudeville; Hector and Lolletta, Italian equilibrists; Miles and Mack, patter and burlesque artistes; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole Lessees, Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Pringle.—This week: Walter Munroe, comedian; Josie Mooney, comedienne; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, North of England Theatre Corporation, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Frank McNaughton; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Dunbar; Musical-Director, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. E. Vivian Edwards and Miss Mary Austin in "Paul Kauvar." The cast also includes Miss Ethe' Vinroy.

RUGBY.

VINT'S HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Mr. Morton Powell's company in "Two Little Vagabonds." The company includes: Miss Phyllis Orme, Miss Florence Gilbert, Miss Kate Perowne, Miss Carrie Nino, Miss Dora Diehl, Miss Eva Lumley, Miss Josie Beltram, Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. G. Ridgway Thorne, Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Harry Leamar, Mr. Percy Strange, Mr. Francis Amptill, Mr. Timothy Blake, Mr. Johnnie Powell, Mr. Thomas Dyson, and Mr. George Gartside.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week, Nat Lewis, comedian; Eddie McCoy and company, in dancing and boxing; the Five Vernons, xylophone experts; and pictures.

RYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Ferry Wood.—This week: The Cosman Couple, in an up-to-date comedy act: Edwin Firth and company, in a breach of promise sketch, entitled, "Non-suited"; and excellent pictures. Next week: "Aladdin."

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George A. De Gray presents "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Geo. A. de Gray, Max Coutts, Robert Hall, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crosby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Soderick, Gerald Connor, Leonard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Violet Ingram. Touring-Manager, Mr. Geo. A. De Gray. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.15.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—This week: Mr. Wm. Watson's comic pantomime, "Little Jack Horner," with Miss Etty Waldron a sprightly Jack. There is plenty of fun supplied by Mr. Joe Waldron, Mr. Billy Waldron, Messrs. Doyle and Massey, and the company also includes: Miss Mamie Ellis, Miss Ada Sinclair, Miss May Dinsdale, Miss Olive Sinclair, Miss Maud Taylor, Miss Dorothy Dell, Miss Elsie Slater, Miss Elsie May, Mr. Franklin Miles, Mr. Walley Gilbert, Mme. Gilbert, Mr. Bert Taylor, and Mr. Cliff Dacre. Acceptable specialities are contributed by the Waldrons, Miss Mamie Ellis, the Royal Temples, Miss Elsie May, Messrs. Doyle and Massey, the Baby Brigade, and Sisters Sinclair. The music and choruses are well arranged and carried out under the direction of Mr. Frank Corrie. The scenery and dresses are good. Twice nightly, and matinées, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Davenport.—This week: Mr. Tom Sherlock, in illustrated songs; and the Regent new animated pictures, including "Human hearts," "Babes in the wood," "Gentleman Joe," &c., &c. Twice nightly, and matinées every day.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Howard presents "The Soldier Princess." The company includes: Frank E. Petley, Frederick Moyes, Alfred Brandon, W. A. Mackersy, Edward Harrison, Walter Hilliard, Frank Josephs, Ralph Ennal, William Wotton, Ernest Fernley, Geo. Marriott, jun., Joseph Ellis, jun., Harry Hartley, Ewart Drake, George Graydol, William F. Gruton, Arthur Westley, Jessica Black, Ivy Millais, Annie Saker. Matinées, Tuesday and Wednesday, at 2.30.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Electric Theatres, Ltd., London; Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—This week: Miss Lilian Earle, elocutionist, and some excellent films. Twice nightly, and matinées daily.

SALISBURY.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Maitland.—This week: The Whatists, in "Burgling"; Ethel Vere, comedienne; Field and Smart, in a musical speciality; and pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—This week: Mr. Wm. De Lacy's company in "Babes in the Wood." The cast includes: Miss Florrie Curette, Miss Elsie Fowler, Miss Doris Snowdon, Miss Rene Snowdon, Miss Edith Levaine, Miss Cissy Hanlon, the Elvinas, Miss Eny Durell, Miss Winnie Morris, Miss E. Levaine, Mr. Bobby Doon, Mr. Freddy Frome, Mr. Wm. De Lacy, Messrs. Granville and Glenn, and Mr. Tom Ashby.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Wilkinson; Manager, Mr. Joe Andy. — This week: Mme. Stockdale's U.S.A.'s in rag-time singing and dancing act; and pictures.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Dawson; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Hughes.—For six nights this week, Mr. George Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," with a strong company including Mr. Jack Kendrick, Miss Flo Inman, Miss Ivy Bartinelli, Mr. Carlisle, Mr. Peter Pan, Mr. George Guest, Mr. Phil Inglis, Mr. J. Ebbsworth, Mr. H. Alvey, Miss Minnie Dawn, Miss Dorothy Pugh Davies, and the Three Cecil Girls.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—"The Pink Lady" has been played to crowded audiences during the holidays by Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company, and concludes its very successful visit to-night. Next week, Mr. George Edwardes' popular production, "Our Miss Gibbs," under the direction of Messrs. Moreton and Heath.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. M. Mahoney. — "Cinderella," Mr. John Hart's spectacular and comic pantomime is a big success, and the artistes all work well together to keep the large audiences in good humour. Mr. Rowland Hill is the principal laugh-maker, and he is well backed up by those well-known comedy merchants, Messrs. Jack Crichton, Rolando Martin, and Stephen Adeson. Miss Ruth Lytton has made a hit as the Prince with her popular songs, "Alexander's rag-time band," "Where is the land of I dunno' where?" "The rag-time violin"; Miss Cecile Gray is a pretty and tuneful Cinderella, and her successful songs, "Little shepherdess of Devon" and "Joshua," are loudly applauded; Miss Aimee Stewart has become a great musical favourite as the sweet little Fairy Godmother, and her charming rendition of "Only a faded rose" secures a deserved encore. The two spiteful sisters are cleverly played by Miss Doris Lind and Miss Gladys Fontaine; Miss Violet Lindsay is a graceful Rosalie; and Miss Nelly Bindon is a vivacious Ferdinand. The charming ballets are received with enthusiasm, and the gorgeous transformation scene brings down the house nightly.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"Mother Goose" has settled down into a good old-fashined Alexandra success, and the house is crowded at every performance. All the characters are smartly represented, and the beautiful scenery and charming ballets (headed by Miss Lottie Stone's talented troupe of dancers) are received with enthusiasm.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Mr. John Tiller's "Cinderella" pantomime company opened to a large audience on Monday. Miss Ethel Negretti was a graceful Prince, and her songs, including the popular "Take me back to the garden of love," were received with enthusiastic applause. As Cinderella, Miss Mary Brougham was the perfection of sweet femininity, and she sang tunefully; and Miss Alice Maude, a vivacious Dandini, was a general favourite; Miss Fanny Wallace (late of the well-known Three Sisters Wallace) and Miss Beatrice Grosvenor caused considerable amusement as the naughty sisters, and those old Sheffield favourites, the Bros. Harrison, acted with their usual sense of burlesque humour and danced cleverly as Jorkins and Jenkins; Mr. Sam Kelly was good as the Page, and Miss F. Florence was much admired as the Fairy Queen. The chorus was excellent, and the dancing of the Twelve Blossoms and the famous Tiller corps de ballet was received with considerable favour. The scenery and dresses were artistic, and the general production was up to the Tiller standard.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—"Cinderella," the second of the pantomime series, was played to a large and enthusiastic house on Monday by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's strong company of burlesque artistes. The scenery and dresses were brilliant and costly, and the company included some well-known favourites, including Miss Angela Hope, the bewitching representative of Cinderella, and Miss Winifred Ray, the bright and handsome Prince, whose songs and duets were deservedly encored. The Ugly Sisters were impersonated cleverly by Messrs. Syd Howard and Fred Pullan; Mr. Will Wynne was an amusing Baron of the usual "stony-broke" order, and his two "scurvy knaves" were represented with considerable ability by Messrs. Nash and Noel. Mr. Randolph Sutton was good as Dandini, Miss Roberts Swendsen was an excellent vocal Fairy, and Mr. Geo. Steyne was a funny, pompous Footman. The ballets and specialities were very successful. Mr. Fred Eplett conducted efficiently.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Big business has again been the rule here, the new-comers this week being Royde and Villiers, comedy sketch artistes; Prof. Bernard, a clever illusionist; and Miss Fanny, vocalist. "The coster's last fight" and some artistic pictures of a fanciful, humorous, dramatic, and pantomimical nature, make up a well-varied programme.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Barnard; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilfrid Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Polini and Melford present "The Silver King." The company includes: Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, Miss Roberta Pulleyne, Mr. Alfred Terris, Miss Dorothy Douglass, Mr. H. Elliott Ball, Mr. Raymond Le Caudey, Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Fred May, Mr. Leslie Ellis, Mr. Stanley Terran, Mr. L. Ettway, Mr. I. Falkener, Messrs. A. Fry and F. Rogers, Messrs. N. Pilsener and A. Baxter, Mr. P. Abutt, Mr. F. Allwood, Mr. Henry Littlejohn, Master Rodney, Mr. J. O. Smith, Mr. E. Fisher, Mr. I. V. Harte, Miss Margaret Cloud, Miss Fanny Binstead, Miss Edith Benson, Miss E'len Foster, Miss P. Mackey. Touring-Manager, Mr. S. Burton. Next week: "As White as a Lily."

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. G. Guest; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Will Morris.—This week: Li Chang Hi, Chinese magician, supported by his charming assistant, Tai Mao, in entirely new mysteries; Dave Abbott, the nimble Scot; Maud Hughes, soprano; Mabel Lenton, comedienne and dancer; Charles F. Hill, comedian, assisted by Florian Martini; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Preece.—This week: Arthur Stephens, light comedian; Lois Audrey, dainty comedienne; Fred Erie, quaint comedian; and pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr. James Chapman.—This week: "The Silver King" is being presented by Pollini and Melford's company.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company in "Autumn Manœuvres." The company includes: Mr. Huntley Wright, Miss May Rawlinson, Miss Bertie Adams, Miss Beatrice Willey, Mr. Gordon James, Mr. Ivan Clarke, Mr. Oswald Lingard, Mr. John Valentine, Mr. George Wilson, Mr. Harry Johnstone, etc. Manager of the company, Mr. Lindsay Edwards; musical-director, Mr. H. Lonsdale.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Yardley.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Murray. — This week: Mark Sheridan, comedian; the Three Sisters Eston, gymnastic act; the Lightning Vinettos, jugglers; Geo. Newburn, mimic; the Croisit Trio, hand balancers; and Ida Hall and Olive Dene.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. ...non.—This week: Messrs. Dottridge and Lo...den's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Hetty Zillwood, Mr. James Ralles, Mr. Arthur Holland, Miss Minnie Muir, Mr. Tom Drew, Mr. Albert Williams, Miss Kitty Trewhite, Miss Edith Isabelle, Miss Berty Warwick, Miss Enid Hamilton, Messrs. Doyle and Gibson, Mr. Frank Melville, Miss Una Ellis, and Mr. E. C. Wilkins. Specialities by the Waldorf Troupe.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Business-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Cinderella," again occupies the boards here this week. The cast includes: Miss Viola Hamilton, Miss Meg Hamilton, Mr. Will Terry, Miss Ollie Dennie, Mr. Jack Cromo, Miss Dorothy Vernon, Miss Vic Ray, Mr. Chris Baker, Miss Gladys Harper, Mr. Jack Redmond, Mr. Will Seymour, Miss Ruby Reene, and Miss Jean Robb.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Director-General, Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Heidelbergs, in musical mélange; Geo. Prince, comedian; Gotto, Japanese juggler; Morris and Moore, step dancers; Alvera, trick cyclist; Bertha Evelyn, vocalist; Jumel and Ruby, in musical act; Walker and Lake, patter comedians; and the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Anna Dorothy, American comedienne; Joe Almasio and Miss Yamina, jugglers and Arab tumblers; the Simms, vocalists and dancers; Jack Stocks, comedian; Mollie Baldwin, vocalist; the Mayvilles, in Liliputian novelty act; Barbara Huntley and company in comedy playlet, "Miss Clever Dick"; and the Bioscope.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John W. Coulson; Musical-Director, Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Watson Mill presents "Mid Pleasures and Palaces." The company includes: Mr. Edward E. Louis, Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, Mr. Horace A. Whitmee, Mr. W. Palliser Acock, Mr. Fred Frank, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, Mr. Geo. Buckley, Mr. Harry Presoner, Miss Myra Eyton, Mr. C. Watson Mill, Mr. Villiers Stanley, Mr. Richard Oliver, Miss Edith Gregory, Miss D. Freda, Miss Joan Ellis. Touring-Manager, Mr. W. Palliser Acock. Next week: "Babes in the Wood."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Betty Barclay and a baritone in a novel scena; Frank Elliston and company; G. W. Hunter, comedian and raconteur; Bros. Millar, gymnastic comedians; Poulton and Dooley's four cycling comedians; Ciara Coverdale's Eight Boston Boys and Girls in a vocal and dancing act; George Ray, Scotch comedian; and the Bioscope. Musical-Director, Mr. Jos. Campbell.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Jas. W. Bainton.—This week: Ellerslie Pyne, in his novel scena, "An Actor's Dream"; Marjorie and Maud, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES, TEMPERANCE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Macdonald; Manager, Mr. Morris Geo. Elsy.—This week: Master Albert Burdon, juvenile comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE. — Manager and Lecturer, Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Richard H. Taylor.—This week: Brinn, in a balancing act; the dancing Paceys; and pictures. Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Verd.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE.—Lessees, Messrs. Alf Burrows and Thos. Drewett; Manager, Mr. Burrows.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company occupy the stage here with "The Mill Girl and the Miner." The company includes: Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. R. Malcolm Strachan, Mr. Hugh Travers, Mr. Tom Armitage, Mr. Charles Trevor, Miss Connie Tremayne, Miss Kitty Johnston, Miss Ellen Owen, and Miss Catherine May.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Burrows. — The Dramas, Ltd., are again appearing here with "The Secrets of Eve," which is produced by Mr. David Collins, together with pictures.

ARCADIA. — Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; Manager, Mr. H. E. Feather.—The New Year's attractions include Dantz Duo; Olive Lizette and Dan Pedley; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Evelyn Thomas.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company in "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife?" and "A Vacant Chair." The company includes: Messrs. P. Brown, as Felix Beverley, Claude Graveley, Edward Franks, Cyril Grier, Cliff Deane, Sid Hobson, Arthur Lowry, George Moreton, Misses Kathleen Magee, Anna Corrie, and Vida Haslewood. Next week: "A Trip to Chinatown" and "Jelf's."

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Musical-Director, Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week (once nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward presents "The Slave Girl." The company includes: Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie, Mr. Fred Rivers, Mr. Chris Dare, Mr. A. Arnold Allen, Mr. Willie H. Vernon, Mr. Victor Cannon, Mr. Yankee Weston, Mr. Chas. Ryde, Miss Louie King, Miss Lily Jessing, Miss Nellie Hayes, Miss Effie Macintosh, Miss Lizzie Chambers, Miss Gem Lloyd, Miss Ward. Touring-Manager, Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie.

STIRLING.

ARCADE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Newman; Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Anderton; Musical-Director, Mr. Jos. de Gabriele.—This week (twice nightly, matinee on Saturday, and special matinées on Wednesday and Thursday, at 3): The Five Whiteleys in a wire-walking musical acrobatic mélange; the Lembergs, in sketch, "My Brother-in-Law's Gun"; Belton and Osborne, in refined tit-bits of Irish and Scotch comedy; and pictures.

OLYMPIA PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Caledonian Cinematograph Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. D. Stratton; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Grafton Tottem.—This week (twice nightly, and Saturday matinée at 3; extra matinees on Wednesday and Thursday): The genial Irishman, Horace Wheatley; Neil and Davis, comedy duo; the Beau Brummels, in dancing act; the beautiful Lilian, lady cyclist; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—Managers and Lessees, The Albert Hall Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Pearson.—This week: Jan. 1 and 2, George Edwardes' company, under the management of Mr. Herbert Ralland, presents "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Messrs. Claude Cameron, Bertram White, Walter Wicklow, Ralph Foster, Claude Hogg, Barry Rayne, Edward Owen, Howard Read, Misses Winifred Dunkeley, Elsie la Barte, Dorothy Milford, and Violet Rangdale, with Herbert Lite as managing-director. Jan. 3 and 4, Mr. Cyril Maude's company appears in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company consists of Messrs. Tom Crawford, G. Hunter, J. T. R. Lennie, James Wright, John Macdonald, Misses Douglas Hicks, Evelyn Greig, Ruby Sue, Margaret Macpherson, and Eleanor Scott. The manager is Mr. Henry Pettit; and business-manager, Mr. G. Aubrey Hall.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime continues here.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Frank Bertram presents "The Mormon Peril." The company includes: Mr. P. Barry Lewers, Mr. W. H. Pointon, Mr. Howard Smith, Mr. Arthur S. Pitt, Mr. Tom Owen, Mr. Frank Bertram, Mr. Frank Wheatley, Mr. Brian Daly, Mr. Peter H. Gardner, Mr. Albert Plant, Mr. George Douglas, Mr. Fred Ratcliffe, Miss Cecelie Fisher, Miss Amy Hardcastle, Miss Winifred Haymes, and Miss Nellie V. Warden.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): "Life in the Wild Bush"; Ethel Bourne, contralto; Ida Re'Vell, comedienne; the Carbrey Boys, dancers; Wylie and Wood, comedy duo; The Avolos; Tomcat, assisted by Mlle. Flor D'Aliza, presents her trained game roosters; pictures. Next week: "The Barrier."

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week: Tom H. Taylor presents Lester Collingwood's drama, "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Ernest C. Edwards, Mr Victor Mason, Mr. John Belton, Mr. Robert Barcham, Mr. Alfred Amos, Miss Winifred Maine, Little Madge Hare, Miss Cissie Cleveland, Miss Bella Power, Miss Florence Dalton, Mr. Herbert Morgan, Mr. Sydney Arthur, Mr. Ridgewood Barric, Mr. J. E. Abbott, Mr. Edwin Newman, Mr. Sam T. Lea, Miss Alice Hellier, Miss Louie Heathfield, Miss Christine Middleton, and Miss Florence Halton.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Local-Manager, Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Datas, the marvellous man of memory; Miss Kitty Grey, phenomenal child vocalist; V. Franks and company in comedy sketch; and pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. Davidson's pantomime, "Cinderella," at this house is now an acclaimed success. A fine amount of unity has been established among all the principals, and a delightful swing is maintained from beginning to end. Miss Ouida Macdermott has become a firm favourite with the local public for her sprightly acting and clever vocal contributions. Miss Nell Emerald is equally popular for the vim and dash which she infuses into her portrayal of Dandini. Miss Violet Russell, for her nimbleness and grace as Cinderella; Miss Maimie Hainsworth, for her charming Fairy Queen; Miss Jeannie Hacket, for her humorous localisms as Mopsa, and Miss Dorothy L. Townrow, for her cleverly feigned ultra-dramatic impression as the other sister, are all accorded hearty appreciation for their efforts. The humorists, too, have been equally successful. Johnny Osborne's catchy style as the Baron, Mr. Paddy Dupre's quaint mannerisms as the Dame, and Mr. Harry Rogerson's flippant manner and clever tumbling as Choddles do their work in so excellent a manner that they will be long remembered here. The Martelli Troupe create much enthusiasm with their picturesque dancing, headed by Mlle. Chiffon, who contributes some speciality work of a high order.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," at this theatre has proved an immense draw. The book has been written by Mr. G. Henry Curwen, and produced by Mr. Harry Burns. Performances are given twice nightly. The title-rôle has a capital exponent in Miss Victoria Carmen, whose stage presence is at once prepossessing. The Principal Girl is Miss Vera Rochdale (Polly Perkins), and a more charming rendition than is given could not possibly have been wished for. Splendid singing comes from both of these ladies, their favourite number being the duet, "Susie Green." Another lady prominent in vocalism is Miss Florrie Elliston, who as the Fairy Queen gains much favour. The Four Jo-Burg Girls form an exceedingly smart quartette in dancing. Foremost among the humorists is Mr. Arthur Aistow, who as Bill Atkins causes endless amusement with his clever and timely touches. Mr. Will Lindsay as Billy Crusoe also contributes largely towards the merriment of the production. Valuable work also comes from Messrs. Stewart and Morris as Captain Cuttle and Captain's Mate, Messrs. Jones, Yorke, and Wilson as the Pirates, and Mr. H. Griffiths, who gave a quaint interpretation of Dame Crusoe. The scenery, which is on a most elaborate scale; the gay dresses, by Madame E. Ophide, and the tuneful music by Mr. E. Hardy, all go to make a splendid show.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Clement Padden.—Tom and Kate Major are scoring heavily here with a mirth-provoking act, "The Broker's Man." Dante, assisted by Ruby, astounds his audience with an act of mystery; and Carmen Hand, Dutch comedian, is also popular.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boulton.—This week: Mr. George Black's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Misses Freda Danilo, Isa Gibson, Jean King, Kitty Rhoades, Maisie Gray, and Gertrude Gay; and Messrs. Dan Rodney, Jack Conan, Sam Fay, Rozel, Tom Hall, and Jack Colby.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. A. E. Hamilton.—The Aerial Budds are giving an intrepid performance on the trapeze here this week. Scott and Kane's Fourteen Juveniles submit a pleasing song and dance act, and Les Andres execute some interesting terpsichorean work under the heading of "Dances of All Nations."

SWANSEA.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Richardson; Musical-Director, Mr. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Whit Cunliffe, singer; Maggie Walsh, singing mill girl; Hartley Wonders, in jumping act; Four Amaranths, dancers; Fred Wildon; Ferry Corwey, the musical clown; Daisy Sloan, Scotch comedienne; Howard and Harris; pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred H. Lucas. — This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Field Fisher, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Mr. Barnard Moore, Mr. Dulton Nicholas, Mr. Edward Arundell, Mr. J. Western, Mr. Allen Forde, Mr. Bevan Brown, Mr. J. Sharland, Mr. Howard V. Cropton, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Madge Broadwood, Miss Irene Gilbert, Miss Peggy Grey, Miss Ruby Tattersall, Miss Sadrene Storri, and Miss Mary Hesseltine. Musical-Director, Mr. W. Forbès Martin. Touring-Manager, Mr. George Gray. Next week: "The Monk and the Woman."

TODMORDEN.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Bennett and Tolfree, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Boden.—This week (once nightly, Saturday twice nightly): Four Le Roys; John Lord, musical collier and trick violinist; pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. C. W. Poole; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week: Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company in "The Frontier Queen" (twice nightly). The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. Henry Johnson, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, Mr. Henry Bowler, Chief Brown Bear, Chief Brown Elk, Mr. Edward O'Grady, Mr. A. W. Howson, Mr. A. Bancroft, Mr. Pat Van Issher, Mr. Jas. Stephenson, Mr. A. Mowbray, Mr. E. Harold, Mr. James Underwood, Mr. W. Murray Johns, Mr. Harry Field, Mr. Reeves Hickton, Miss M. Majilton, Miss Dorothy Riddell, and Miss Beatrice Anderson. Business-Manager, Mr. Sidney C. Hill. Special matinée, Tuesday morning, 11 a.m.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—"Aladdin," written by Mr. Leslie Moreton, and produced by Mr. J. R. La Fane, is proving very successful here. The company includes: Miss Daisy Hurdle, Miss Francis Walker, Mr. Alf Leslie, Mr. Charles Resti, Mr. Robert Dennant, Messrs. Hastings and Vaughan, Miss Felicia Firmin, Mr. Millar Wilson, Miss Prudence Ayrton, Miss Marie Gilbert, Mr. Harry Spawton, Miss Vivian Vanna.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.; Business-Manager, Mr. Chas. Grove.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Percy Hutchison and Co. in "Brewster's Millions." The company includes: Mr. F. Hunter, Mr. W. Hughes, Messrs. Yates and Green, Mr. F. Gordon, Messrs. Forbes and Brown, Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Claire Millvain, Miss Gwenda Villiers, Miss Muriel Nevison, Miss Betty Linley, Miss Elsie Stranack, Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest Deans, Mr. T. Gordon Blyth, Mr. Henry Hampson, Mr. Herbert Marshall, Mr. V. S. Haye, Mr. Chas. Bedells, Mr. Henry Byatt, Mr. Walter Plinge,

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"CINDERELLA" AT BORDESLEY.

Produced by Mr. Syd Benson, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Carlton, with ballets and marches arranged by Miss Rose Tyrrell, "Cinderella," at the Palace, Bordesley, is delightfully pretty in the way of scenic effects and beautiful dresses, and there are many novelties introduced. The curtain rises on the Demon Clock scene, where Malignant, effectively played by Mr. F. D. Fraser, vows his intention of still further humbling Cinderella. The Woodland scene follows, and here excellent massing and grouping of the children furnishes a feature of the production. We are introduced to Mr. Bert Castle as Dandini and Miss Elsie Wilson as Dolly Varden, and, later on, Miss Edith Courtney makes an effective entry as Prince Charming, and gives a rousing hunting song. Mr. Keane Harker immediately makes good as Pimple, the page; Mr. Syd Benson is introduced as the Baron; and there follows some excellent comedy business, in which the Ugly Sisters, capitally played by Misses Anna Beaumont and Ada Frank, take a very prominent part. Indeed, Misses Beaumont and Frank have much to do with the laughter that continually rises from the audience, for their portrayal of the characteristics of the unnatural sisters of the fairy tale is full of humour, and they depict to a nicety and very laughable degree the petty squabbles and strifes in which Cinderella's tormentors indulge. There is some capital singing hereabouts. Mr. Bert Castle gives "Mr. Cupid" in rollicking fashion, and Miss Madge Carew, who makes a very dainty Cinderella, delights the audience with "Keep on swinging me, Charlie." The first part of the pantomime closes with a splendid depiction of the Fairy Boudoir, where Miss Gladys Fisher calls to her aid her various toilet fairies to assist her in making Cinderella's grand change. The children are beautifully dressed, and a particularly effective item is the presentation of the fairy bouquet, where a group of juveniles, carrying garlands of flowers, give a very pretty dance in front of Cinderella. The coach is a magnificent piece of stage workmanship, and Cinderella sets out for the ball to the accompaniment of ringing cheers.

The second half opens very effectively, and we see Cinderella arriving at the ball in a beautiful electrically lit motor-car. Whitney and Joyner, as Nail 'Em and Pinch 'Em, also arrive, and are very funny in their comedy business in which they attempt to lay the Castle ghost. The Ballroom scene is magnificent, and there are some very pretty dances, notably by Miss Elsie Wilson. Rag-time is introduced by Miss Edith Courtney, who leads on to the stage a burlesque of the famous "Alexander's band." Mr. Bert Castle also gives "Paree," and later on "Fiddle-de-dee"; whilst Miss Elsie Wilson delights with her rendering of "Joshua." Miss Courtney is also heartily applauded for her rendering of "Take me back to the garden of love." The last scene of splendour is The Prince's Garden, where everybody joins hand and heart.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT CARDIFF.

A great success has already been made at the Cardiff New Theatre with "The Forty Thieves," which was produced on Boxing Day to packed houses. The pantomime is played in nine scenes, The opening scene, The Bazaar at Shak-ra, is at once accorded hearty applause, and still heartier approbation is bestowed upon The Exterior of the Cave, The Interior of the Cave, and The Courtyard to Ali Baba's House. The music, which is by Jullien H. Wilson and Knight Pearce, is of exceptional merit, and the chorus is strong and tuneful. Mr. Milton Bode has been happy in his choice of principals, and the large company enter into the spirit of the play with enthusiasm. Miss Dorothy Craske makes a striking figure in the character of Abdullah. Miss Craske makes a hit with the popular rag-time items, "Everybody's doing it" and "Alexander's rag-time band," the latter being rendered in a picturesque costume. Miss Ethel Eden as Ganem acts with refinement, and sings with much charm. Miss Eden has several songs, in all of which her vocal ability is apparent. Miss Renee Reel as Morgiana makes a tremendous success, and in the rôle of Spirit of Mischief gives a display of graceful dancing. Miss Eda Walden as Gretel, a Dutch girl, proves a decided asset. Mr. Jack Sheridan is entrusted with the part of Ali Baba, and keeps the fun going fast and furious, his antics with his donkey (cleverly performed by Mr. Albert Felino) make the audience simply shriek with laughter. Mr. Willie Garvey as the Dame is diverting and sprightly as could be wished. Little Jack Marks and Mr. Archie McCaig as diminutive lieutenants of the Forty Thieves are a great source of amusement. Mr. Leonard May admirably realises the character of Cassim Baba; Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon deserves much praise for his capital rendition of Mustapha; and the performance of Mr. Ivan Kotchinsky as Efreet of the Cave deserves praise. The augmented orchestra is under the charge of Mr. Knight Pearce, the pantomime is produced under the stage-management of Mr. George Rowlands, the scenery is by Stafford Hall and Helmsley, and the ballets are produced by Miss Madge Martin. Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford certainly merit an exceptional run, as the production leaves nothing to be desired.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT CARDIFF.

Mr. Arthur Carlton presented his third annual pantomime at the Cardiff Royal on Boxing Day, and won a great success. The book is excellently written, the company is a most capable one all round, the scenery is well executed and arranged, and the costumes are most tasteful and appropriate. The story follows much on familiar lines, and is embellished with witty lines and business. Miss Maggie Bowman is Dick Whittington, and acts from start to finish with a freshness which is most invigorating. Her several vocal numbers are rendered in a bright style, and she scores particularly in "Saturday to Monday." Miss Nita Dunville as Alice is a bewitching personage, and, with a sweet, clear voice such as Miss Dunville possesses, her various songs (notably "Little shepherdess of Devon" and "Keep on swinging me, Charlie") could not fail to succeed. Miss Renee Gem as Sir Rowland and Miss Florence Woolley as Dolly Varden are a dainty pair. Mr. Tom Owen, the popular Welsh comedian, is much to the fore as Cook, keeping the house convulsed with laughter whenever he is on the stage. Mr. Tom Morton as Idle Jack is also a prominent comedian, the swing with which he renders "Who were you with last night?" being most exhilarating. Mr. Fred Dunville as Alderman Fitzwarren is another merry-maker who gets on good terms with his audience. Wheeler and Wilson, the happy-go-lucky Captain and his Bos'n, do excellent work in making the performance go with spirit; Mr. Harry Gilmore distinguishes himself in the part of the Cat, and Mr. W. H. Gatty in a dual rôle; Miss Roberta Williams as the Fairy and Miss Lizette Kitchin as Princess Yum-Yum are to be congratulated upon capable portrayals. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Eric Sandor, Mr. E. R. Beaumont being responsible for the production under the direction of Mr. Arthur Carlton.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT ILFORD.

The very name of Messrs. Albert and Edmunds is a guarantee for a good pantomime, and their production of "The Babes in the Wood" at the Ilford Hippodrome proves no exception to the rule. Everybody concerned works very hard, and the whole show seems destined for a long and profitable run.

Prince Radian is played by Miss Madge Lester, who makes an ideal principal boy. Possessing an excellent figure and pleasing voice, she is heard to great advantage in several topical songs, and dances with ease and grace. Miss Kitty Corelli, as Princess Dainty, does not belie her name, and plays up well to Miss Lester, both ladies being heard to advantage in their combined vocal efforts, Miss Corelli's imitations in the School scene, of a baritone, small child and coon, are very good. The two broker's men—Horatio Hardup and Sammy Sop, are in the hands of James Albert and Edmund Edmunds. The resources of these two comedians appear to be unlimited, and their every appearance is the signal for laughter. Special mention should be made of the "wheezes" introduced in the school, and the scene in the wood. Miss Violet Poole, as the friend and adviser of Prince Radiant, is very dashing, and sets all the boys singing the chorus of the popular ditty "Who were you with last night?" Miss Louie Dacre, as Dolly Daydream, should make headway, and her singing of "I do like you Susie," followed by a neatly executed dance, achieves one of the successes of the evening. Jimmy Tray, as King Wow Wow, and Syd Kearns, as Pip (his page), are excellent, and their singing, attired as Hebrew comedians, of "What a business," goes down very well. Both gentlemen have plenty to do, and both make the most of their opportunities. Reggie and Elsie the Babes, are in the capable hands of the Misses Ida and Jessie Rene, and more fascinating children it would be difficult to meet. Rag-time ditties are a conspicuous feature in their répertoire, and the young artistes sing and dance with fine assurance and ability. Mr. W. Thomas looks and acts the part of Malignant, as a demon should, and scored one of the hits of the performance with his song, "When the sands of the desert grow cold," which admirably suits his fine baritone voice. As Dame Trumble, Mr. Teddy Denham, a quiet comedian with a good style, works exceedingly hard in the fun department. He sings several songs, his best being a medley of parodies of rag-time, which was well received. All the other parts are in capable hands, and the members of the chorus sing and dance in a most efficient manner. The pantomime is well dressed and excellently staged. Mr. Adolphe Wolff conducts his fine orchestra in his usual finished style.

"HUMPTY-DUMPTY" AT LEEDS.

"Humpty-Dumpty," Mr. John Hart's eighteenth Christmas pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, is proving a great success. Miss Ella Retford as Humpty-Dumpty is all that can be desired. She has a good stage presence, a pleasing and expressive manner in rendering her songs, which include "Dixie," "Hello. Susie Green," and "Mr. Cupid," and she has already become very popular. The Princess is daintily played by Miss Irene Meldon, who acts in winsome style and sings most artistically "The cavalier" and "Wizard spell." Miss Ethel Newman is also a very prominent figure as the Princess Aurora. Her speciality act is one of the leading features of the pantomime. Minor characters are played by Misses Dorothy Leigh and Elsie Malpas, whilst Titania, the fairy queen, is gracefully played by Miss Hebe Bliss. Messrs. Downes and Langford respectively play the characters of Roberto, Chief of Police, and the King of the Castle, and these popular comedians are responsible for much fun. Mr. Frank Danby, who is taking the character of Birdie Young, is a popular favourite; and Mr. Josh Dixon (Sammy) keeps the audience in continual merriment with his irresistible humour. He has three capital songs, namely, "Setting the village on fire," "Wibbly-wobbly walk," and "Ring-a-roses." Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald as Rudolph (Master of the Revels) is very quaint and amusing, and his song, "Who were you with last night?" will prove one of the most popular of the pantomime. The Demon is well represented by Mr. Lewys Lloyd; and Clark's Crazy Comical Comedians appear in a comical cycling act. The ballets, which are exceedingly pretty, are under the supervision of Mme. Marie Royce; and the scenic artistes, Messrs. R. C. Oldham and D. C. Hall, have supplied some beautiful scenes. Mr. Victor Stevens is responsible for the stage-management.

"OLD KING COLE" AT NEWCASTLE.

On Christmas Day Messrs. Howard and Wyndham presented their twenty-eighth Newcastle pantomime, entitled "Old King Cole," at the Tyne Theatre. It is an entirely new production, written expressly for this theatre by Mr. J. Hickory Wood. The fun is wholesome and genuine, and the pantomime goes with a swing from beginning to end. It is made up of thirteen scenes, principally from the brushes of Messrs. T. F. Dunn and Stanley Schuber, the tableau being by T. Holmes. There are two sets of a remarkably novel character, and they had a great reception. The first, The Market Place, the setting of which is made up of vendors' stalls, consisting of very light articles, and when the business is in full swing there suddenly arises a hurricane of wind which carries everything. The whole stage is filled with flying papers, balloons, clothes, &c., and there is a hopeless mix-up of everything and everybody. The second scene of particular merit is No. 10—On Board Ship. This is confined solely to the Bros. Egbert, and consists of a section of a ship showing the sleeping apartment, surrounded by a very angry-looking sea. The brothers appear with the intention of retiring to their bunks, and, while in the act of doing this, the sea apparently gets more turbulent, and the ship's movements more pronounced, making it extremely difficult for the comedians to keep their feet. They are thrown along with everything in the cabin, from one side to the other, in very laughable manner, despite their frantic efforts to cling to the bunks. The situation is most ludicrous, and a screaming finale is supplied when the ship completely turns turtle.

The company is a capable one. Mr. John Humphries as King Cole is the principal mirth-provoker, and he practically occupies the stage the whole of the time. His jokes and stories are good, and he infuses plenty of go into his songs, especially "Ring of roses." The Bros. Egbert, as Peter and Simple Simon respectively, are also responsible for a very large share of the enjoyment. They combine their knockabout, dancing, and acrobatic business effectively, and are strong favourites. Mr. Frank Fort as Queen Cole makes an ideal Dame. His quaint and quiet mannerisms provide a good foil to the more robust King, and his duet, the "Waltz competition," is exceedingly good. Miss Beatrice Guiver is a graceful Princess, and is applauded for her singing of "My heart is with you to-night." Miss Clara Beck is a lively and dashing principal boy (Tom). She is full of vivacity and go, and has plenty of opportunities of showing her qualities in the songs, "Alexander's rag-time band," "Hitchey Koo," and "Mr. Cupid," all of which are given with a rare swing, and are deservedly encored. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Abdul the Magician scores with his "Girl in Havana" song; Miss Queenie Preston (Willie Winkie) is smart; as is also Miss Betty Green (Contrary Mary); and Dick and May are in the capable hands of Miss Glory Quayle and Miss Minnie Marshall. Crusty, the Pieman, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. F. Gordon Dunn. A feature of the production is the excellent dancing and singing of "I'm going home to Dixie," by the Geneva troupe of dancers; and a speciality dance by Miss Violet Veleta is delightful. The Eight Little Gems, child dancers, are also good. The costumes are very fine, especially in the tableau scene. The music, partly arranged and composed by Mr. Alfred Carpenter, under the direction of Mr R. Hill, is very tuneful and catchy. The pantomime is produced under the direction of Mr. T. F. Wyndham, assisted by Mr. John J. Daly, and bids fair to have a long and successful run.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT PONTYPRIDD.

Crowded houses witnessed a capital production of "Babes in the Wood" at the New Theatre, Pontypridd, under the supervision of Mr. Henry L. Osmond. The author of the book and lyrics (Mr. Bert Goldin) unfolds his version of the old, old story in twelve scenes. The scenery, designed and executed by Messrs. Trix Lynes and F. Martin, merits unstinted praise, the seventh scene, with its spectacular silver ballet, concluding with a cascade, being particularly effective. The incidental music is arranged by Mr. Syd. A. Becket, and the ballets are the work of the Misses Violet and Lillie English. The pantomime is smartly written, the music is infectious, and there is an abundance of wholesome fun and humour wholly free from vulgarity. Miss Amy Allnutt makes a dashing and bold Robin Hood, and immediately established herself in favour with her artistic singing. Miss Grace Stuart is a bewitching Maid Marion, winning all hearts. The Bold, Bad Villain is realistically portrayed by Mr. Tom Lloyd. High praise is merited by Mr. Alan Hanbury and Mr. Fred Harris for their interpretations of Susanah and Dai Jones respectively. The Danbys are entertaining and resourceful comedians. Lord Fitznoodle and Maudie Cashup are effectively delineated by Miss Lillie English and Miss Violet English. Miss Gwennie Davies scores a success as Fairy Sunlight. Wee Winnie and Alice, in the title-rôles, are very charming.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT ROTHERHAM.

Since the management of the Rotherham Hippodrome have catered for the amusement of the public of Rotherham it can, with safety, be asserted that there never was such a strong attraction as is the case this week. On Monday evening the popular and genial resident-manager, Mr. William Pearson, along with his staff, had their work set out to find accommodation for all who came to witness Miss Florrie Forde and her pantomime "Babes in the Wood," and it is anticipated that during the two weeks' stay at Rotherham not only the seating capacity but standing capacity will be taxed to its utmost. Miss Forde has only been to Rotherham once previously when she had a splendid reception. It is a new innovation on the part of Miss Forde to run her own pantomime company, but the innovation is a distinct success. The book is by Mr. Gilbert Payne, who is also the life and soul of the "show" as Sammy, the Baron's Page. Miss Florrie Forde is a host in herself as the bold Robin Hood, and her beautiful dresses are the admiration of all. She renders several of her recent successes and obtains well merited encores. As the dainty Maid Marion it would be impossible to find a more charming exponent than Miss Stella Esdaile, who has a pretty voice, which she uses to advantage. The Babes are well sustained by Little Vi Davis and Little Amica Reynolds. Miss Gracie Moore is a charming Fairy Sylvania. As Baron Stoney, Mr. Arthur Stratton is a capital mirth-provoker, whilst Austin Lenton is really funny as Nurse Merryweather. Victor and Louis, as the Robbers, contribute in no small degree to the fun of the "show." Other parts that all call for special mention are Frank Sumner as Friar Tuck, Flora Carlton as Marjorie, Miss Rosa Wynford as Will Scarlet, Miss Agnes Lane as Allan-a-Dale, Lily Davis as Dolly Dimple, and Miss Edie Wyatt as Little John. The chorus is cleverly trained and do their work exceedingly well, whilst the orchestra is ably led by Mr. Orlando Powell. The scenery and dresses are on a most expensive and lavish scale, and this combined with the excellence of the pantomime should ensure success to the production wherever it is staged. Rotherham has not in the past been favoured with such a sterling attraction, and thanks are due not only to the proprietors but to Mr. Claude Shayler, the general-manager, and the resident-manager, Mr. William Pearson, for providing the people here with such rare fare.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT SUNDERLAND.

A large audience expressed in no mean manner their unbounded appreciation of this production at Mr. Richard Thornton's house, the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, on Dec. 26. The work has been produced by Mr. Geo. Black, who is to be congratulated on such an entire success. The story is well maintained, and the scenery and dresses are tasteful and elaborate. The principals, without exception, gained immediate approval. Miss Freda Danilo is a bright and vivacious principal boy. Her various vocal numbers were warmly applauded. Miss Isa Gibson, already a firm favourite here, is adding still further to her reputation in the rôle of the principal girl, while her singing and dancing charmed all present. Some finished vocalism also emanates from Miss Jean King as the Chocolate Princess, and Kitty Rhodes as the Fairy Queen. Miss Maisie Grey scores a huge success as Bhey Rum, and Miss Gertrude Gaye as Bobby, and Miss Daizy Gaye as Dolly are also in great pubfic favour. Among the humorists, Mr. Dan Rodney as Sarah (the Cook), and Mr. Jack Conan as Idle Jack, are foremost, and they kept their audience in a continual roar of laughter with their gibes and antics. A tremendous hit in this line is also made by Mr. Sam Fay as the Alderman, who has a species of humour which is quite his own. Mr. Rozel as the cat gives a clever and laughable interpretation of feline customs, while his antics are quite a distinct feature of the pantomime. Mr. Tom Hall as the Captain, and Mr. Jack Colby as the Mate, find high favour with a smart speciality act. The chorus and ballet do their work in meritorious manner, and the production promises to have a splendid run.

Under the names of Big Bill Lind and Buck Simpson (which suggest a cowboy turn), Mr. Will M'Ivor and a clever pianist submitted a new musical act at the Alhambra, Glasgow, this week. Mr. M'Ivor's powerful but sweet tenor voice was heard to advantage in several songs, and the accompaniments were well played by his partner. They were accorded a hearty reception.

Mr. T. C. Daly, the well-known scenic artist, of Manchester, has made yet another success with his scenery for Mr. George Black's pantomimes, "Cinderella" and "Dick Whittington," at York and Sunderland. A feature of the latter show is the ship scene, which is made to roll about in a most realistic manner; this gives the comedians a chance which they are not slow to take advantage of. Mr. Daly has already "pencilled" further business with Mr. Black for next year.

Wm. B. Bostock, Scenic Studio, Manchester, one of the oldest scenic contractors in the provinces, has supplied the whole of the magnificent scenery and coach for Mlle. de Rose's pantomime, "Cinderella," produced at Theatre Royal, Darwen, Christmas week. On the opening night Mr. Bostock's original sets won loud and continuous applause. In the last three years he has stocked over twenty new theatres and halls with his artistic scenery.

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AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 3.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—By arrangement with the Amalgamated S.A. Theatres, Ltd.—Mr. Sydney James and his Strolling Players have made a hit here, and have been rewarded by crowded houses. A new programme has been arranged for this week.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Potts.—The Three Sisters Sprightly have scored a decided success here. Their turn has a skit upon the fashions of the fourteenth century, creating endless amusement. Miss Millie Payne was also greeted with the heartiest applause from a crowded house.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Burnell.—Hymack, described as the chameleon comedian, brought a complete novelty before audiences here. His changes of dress are very clever, and he received much applause. Reynard and Rosella, an excellent harpist and a singer, were accorded a gratifying reception; and Mayone Lawrence, in character songs and dances, was also well received.

GOOD HOPE GARDENS.—"Tiny Town," under the management of W. E. Hanson, is billed to open on Christmas Eve.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 11.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Mr. Sydney James' Strolling Players continue to draw crowded houses here. They finish on Saturday night and travel north, after a most successful season.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel; Sub-Manager, Mr. F. Potts.—A star programme was presented this week, and two benefit matinées are being held, the proceeds of which will be given to the King Edward Memorial Fund.

DURBAN, Dec. 1.—CRITERION THEATRE.—Orpheus in his brilliant and successful musical act, entitled "The Hall of Melody," is the special attraction on the programme this week. Violet Ward scored a great success in her songs, and her dancing was also much admired. The comedy duo, supplied by Ricard and Best, was funny in every detail. Ormond Penstone's illusions are clever and original, and he is ably assisted by a charming lady, Miss San Go. The pictures are all good. Manager Tucker has booked Captain Grahame for next week.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—Toch and Tard present an horizontal bar act that is clever, original, and full of fun. Boyd and Gilfain and La Danseuse are on the same bill. Maria la Bella and full company open on the 2nd ult. for one week only.

PIETERMARITZBURG.—RINKO.—Nellie Payne, after a successful season in Durban and Johannesburg, delighted all who have seen her clever turn. Harry Thurston, in character impressions, made good. "Chosach" is a marvel on the xylophone; and that charming comedienne, Vena Velma, made a great hit.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 2. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd. The Wheeler-Edwardes Gaiety Co. produced on Monday last the first South African musical comedy, entitled "The Girl from Springfontein." The author is Mr. Lewis Rose Macleod, and the music has been composed by Mr. H. Barlow Coulthard. The play is rich in delightful lyrics, and the music is very good and original. Unlike the majority of musical comedies, this one possesses a plot, and Mr. Macleod—a kindly satirist—is in his element. It will not be long before the catchy tunes will be whistled all over Johannesburg. The principal parts are played by Mr. Donald Campbell (General Prinsloo), Mr. Tom Payne (His Honour the Commissioner), Miss Beatrice Meredith (Gracie Wessels), Mr. Laurence Legge (Reggie Brown), Mr. Myles Clifton (Benny Jones), Mr. Wilton Dougherty (General Brink), Miss Daisy Wallace, Miss Maidie Stevenson, and Mr. Hugh Kennedy.

STANDARD THEATRE. — Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Manager, Mr. Edward Vincent. Mr. Rayne produced "A Message from Mars" last week, in which he took his favourite part of Horace Parker. Mr. Payne's acting was quite delightful, and possesses that element of humour and cynicism that the part requires. He was ably assisted by Miss Freda Godfrey (Minnie), Miss Dora Naseby (Aunt Martha), Mr. John Nesbit (the Messenger), Mr. Harry C. Paine (the broken-down inventor), and the other members of his company. Business has been phenomenal.

EMPIRE.—The Schwartz Co., in "The Broken Mirror"; Signor Torti, tenor; Sterling and Love, in "A Brush Up"; Helm and Cozens, in "The Doctor and the Patient" Dorame Sisters and Wood, dancers and singers; Great and Good, comedy acrobats; Marie Wilton, soubrette and dancer; the Grays, specialty artistes; Marie Courtenay, comedienne, and the Sisters Phillips, singers and dancers, hold the Empire boards, and pack the house nightly. "La Pia" is due next week.

Owing to pressure upon our space, Showman's World is omitted this week.

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The pantomime "Cinderella," Mr. Oswald Stoll's production from the Middlesex Palace, opens at the Empire, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday next, and will be continued for two weeks.

Miss Lily Leverne, whose contract with Mr. George Dance in "The Quaker Girl" on tour expired in November, is now appearing with Mr. Arthur Roberts in a leading part in his new production.

At the Palace, Bath, this week, owing to an accident, Mr. Pat Lynch has been unable to appear. In his stead the management have secured the services of the trained ourang-outang, Yacov, a turn that has met with much appreciation and success.

Vilmos Westony, the well-known Hungarian pianist, sails to-day (Saturday) by the Lusitania to fulfil engagements with the Sullivan and Considine Circuit in America. The Tauberts and the Joe Boganny Troupe leave next week for the same management.

Mr. Arthur Blount is a comedian of a particularly eccentric order. He has much that is amusing in his patter, and his whole performance is more than sufficient to evoke the heartiest laughter. At the Camberwell Empire last week he proved enormously successful, and was called again and again.

Cuckoo and Laura, those wonderful talking birds, have been held over for the Loew time in New York City, after just finishing a most successful engagement on the Sullivan and Considine tour from coast to coast and Canada. This is their third successful tour in the United States.

Mr. Frank Allen has declared to the "Westminster Gazette" that patter of an offensive description is absolutely played out. "The public do not want it, and will not have it. If the management failed to put an effective check upon this form of vulgarity, our patrons would be swift to resent the laxity. For our part, we welcome all criticism of this character; our artists, however, are too familiar with our desires to be likely to offend in this direction. Each performer has to submit the whole of his 'business' to a special censorship of the staff at the hall where he is appearing before it is produced; and effective arrangements have been made to prevent a repetition of an offence."

The management of the Surrey gave a special matinée performance to the school children of Southwark and neighbourhood on Thursday. Two thousand of the poorest kiddies were present. The Mayor of Southwark, in his robes of office, accompanied by the Mayoress and Councillors, were the recipients of hearty cheering from all parts of the house as they entered. The seating of the children was a prodigious affair, but each was made comfortable, and the smallest child was so placed as to obtain a clear view of the stage. The turn that appealed most to the youngsters was Professor Ross's Punch and Judy. The antics of Punch and his spouse never seem to tire; even the adults present were compelled to join in the hilarity. Amongst the artistes who amuse were Coram, Revene and Revel, Baby Woolf, Arley's Dogs, the De Breans, Four Casinos, Mina Box, Andre's Canine Wonder (another popular item), Lily Phelps, and others, including the highly-educated chimpanzee, Lady Molly.

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April 21, May 5, 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 3, 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
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WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
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WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Feb. 10, and various dates, onwards.
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"CINDERELLA," vacant Jan. 27.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"RED RIDING HOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE," Feb. 3.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, RAVENSCOURT, WORCESTER.

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Applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

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G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, 24, May 12.
O.H., CORK, Feb. 24, April 7, 28, May 5.
G.T. SWANSEA, March 17 (?), May 19.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, May 5.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17, 31 (?).
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H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attraction, Feb. 24.
Only vacant date this Spring.
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction for Feb. 10, Ashton (once nightly), March 24, Stockport (twice nightly).
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, either once or twice nightly.
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
James Bell.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
April 14, and Autumn.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime for next Christmas. State fullest particulars, and where to be seen for the next 3 weeks. Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions only for Jan. 13 20, and 27. Wire or write. T. Rodger, Manager, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

SHODFRIARS' HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Harold H. Dodds.
Newly decorated, Stage enlarged, all new Scenery and Proscenium, new Tip-up Seating and new Lighting.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 27, Feb. 24, March 10, Easter, May 5. 6, 7. Boston Fair. Bookings in conjunction with New Arcadia Theatre, Skegness. Two nights Boston, one night Skegness.

WANTED, High-class Attractions only (no heavy dramas), Feb. 3, 10, 24, March 3, 10, 17.
Wire for Jan. 27.
Good front seat plays and musical comedies.
Apply,
Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Variety Attraction, March 10, 24, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, on, with exceptions. Also Good Attractions, Musical, Variety, or Dramatic, Garrison T., Tidworth, Jan. 13, on, with exceptions.
ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Attractions for Feb. 10, 17, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Gloucester, First-class Musical Comedy Shows, once and twice nightly; vacant dates, March 3, 10, 17, 31, May 5. 12. 26, and various autumn dates. Wire or write, Rea, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Wanted, Attractions for King's Lynn, Jan. 13, 20 (3), March 10, on.
Southend, Feb. 17. March 17, April 7, 21, May 5. 12. 26, on.
Sheerness, Feb. 24, March 3, 17, 31, on.
Rawtenstall, March 24, May 5, 19, on.
Hyde, Feb. 3, May 12. on.
Lowestoft, March 31, April 7, May 12, 19 July 7.
Address, B. Parcezer, Marina, Lowestoft.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Easter Week, and on, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. Apply, W. H. Waddington, 43, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Companies, Twice Nightly.
April 7, Halifax. April 14, Huddersfield.
Address (no wires), Otto C. Culling, Bury.

COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
A first-class theatre run on first-class lines.
WANTED, big Attractions for Feb. 3 and March 10. James Hare, Proprietor.

COMPANIES WANTED.

BOOKED BY MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
WANTED, big Attractions for the following dates:—Aug. 18, Sept. 8 and 29, Oct. 13 and 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 8.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 1, and Nov. 24.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions only for the following dates:—March 17 and 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5.
Write, with full particulars, to Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-street, London. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 3, 10, 17, April 7, 14.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, 17, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 3, 17, 24, 31, April 7, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
Jan. 30 (3), Feb. 3, 24 (3), March 3, 10, 17.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Jan. 23 (3), Feb. 10 (3), 17, 24, March 3.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 13 (3), 24, March 3, 13 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 24 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Feb. 3, 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, April 21.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, July, Aug., and Sept.
Only a few vacant dates.
Bookings include:—Carl Hertz and Co., "The Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Witness for the Defence," "Quaker Girl," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

THE NEW PAVILION, PENZANCE

THE NEW PAVILION, NEWQUAY.

Two Finest Entertainment Halls in Cornwall. Seating capacity, 800 to 1,000 at each. Tip-up Seats. Electric Light throughout. Fixed Proscenium, Tableaux Curtains, &c.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, January, Musical Comedy, Drama, and Vaudeville or Concert Parties.
Apply, Manager, Pavilion, Penzance.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 10, 1913.
'Phone, write, or call,
Dick Adams, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

CHIPPENHAM, WILTS. NEELD PUBLIC HALL.
WANTED, Good Musical or Dramatic Companies, one night or two nights (Friday and Saturday). Accommodation, 800. Good dressing and ante-rooms. First night, £2 12s. 6d.; second, £2 2s., inclusive. Apply, Secretary.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies.
Sensational Productions for Pentre and Porth.
Excellent Business. Refer:
Armitage and Leigh, Arthur Hinton, Travis Green, Jack McKenzie, H. L. Osmonde.
The two Premier Theatres of the Rhondda Valley. Towns barred by these: Tonypandy, Pontypridd, and all towns within a radius of ten miles.
Vacancies, March 3, onwards, with exceptions.
All communications,
Jack Poole,
146, Westgate,
Gloucester.
Wire, "Dates," Gloucester.
'Phone, 176 Gloucester.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical preferred.
Neath Hippodrome, Feb. 10, March 10, 20 (3 nights), April 7, onwards.
Hippodrome, Port Talbot. Sept. 1, 8, onwards.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, Musical Comedies, &c., various dates.
Rodger, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Good Attractions, March 10, April 7, five nights (omitting Friday), April 14, Aug. 11 (?), Sept. 1, 8, 22, 29, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, onwards, with exceptions.
Sidney Cooper.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only), Whit., June 30, and on.
Also good pantomime, Jan.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, Jan. 6 and 13, Opera House, Cork.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Latest Musical and Farcical Comedies, Star Actors and Actresses, Opera, in fact anything with a London reputation that can draw money.
Vacancies, Jan. 13 (?), February, Whitsuntide, July 14 week, September and October, with exceptions.
Colwyn Bay has the largest residential population of any seaside town in North Wales.
"Hindle Wakes" opened to over £100. Refer to Mr. Edwin T. Heys, who was surprised at the business; but it shows Colwyn Bay can do business both in and out of season.
W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

WHITEHALL THEATRE, EAST GRINSTEAD.
WANTED, Musical Comedy and Comedy Companies, Jan. 28 and 29, Feb. 11 and 12, Feb. 25 and 26, two nights each. Address, Cecil Barth, The Little Theatre, Strand, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

PANTOMIME "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Picture Halls, Pavilions, Jan. 13, 20, for this pretty pantomime; special cast of first-class artistes. Address, Barrett, Empire Theatre, Denton, Manchester.

WANTED, for "The Slave Girl," April 28 and August Bank Holiday; now breaking records. "A Lad's Love" vacant April 21 and Whit, also Autumn; an irresistible draw; business huge, beyond all expectations. Coms., T. E. Ward, Queen's T., Leeds.

WANTED, Dates for First-class Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," commencing January 18. Doing enormous business at Empire, Grays.
Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 73, Romford-rd., Stratford.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Jan. 20. Feb. 17. March 3.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31. April 21. May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 24.
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 24.
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 24.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 10.
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 10.
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 10.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres or Halls, Jan. 20, on, with exceptions.
Big company. Full chorus, Negro specialities.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
West London Theatre, W.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3 (3 nights), Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 3, 17, 24, 31.
J. Pitt Hardacre,
Mon., Tues., Wed., Pier Pavilion, Colwyn Bay.
Th., Fri., Sat., County Theatre, Bangor.

J. W. CORDINER & HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL,"
"THE COLOMBO GIRL,"
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, Wanted. Feb. 17, 24, March 3 and 24.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, HAGGAR'S THEATRE, LLANELLY.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
Vacant, Jan. 13.
Jan. 13.
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 6, 27, Easter.
Fred. Bulmer,
Prince of Wales Theatre, Nuneaton.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT."
Miss Jessica Waters and Mr. Arthur Poole.
WANTED, Easter, April 14, Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 1. George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James's-street.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter, onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Kingsway Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, first-class Theatres, "Red Riding Hood" Pantomime, Feb. 17, onwards, to follow Lowestoft. Also dates for "Aladdin" pantomime, Feb. 3, onwards, to follow Opera House, Perth. Both companies guaranteed first-class; magnificent scenery and costumes. Acknowledged by the Press to be two of the best pantomimes of the year.
All applications to C. Adolf Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Easter and Whit, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 17, 31, May 19 (precede Belfast). Autumn Dates open.
E. L. Garside,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

"SILVER KING" CO.
POLINI AND MELFORD.
WANTED, Feb. 10, 17, 24. Twice nightly if required. Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Pengeroad, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "Cinderella," Feb. 3, on. Forty people, and magnificent production. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's Tours.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17.
Apply, this week (wires), T.R., Crook.
Apply, next week (letters), Palace T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Jan. 13, for Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson in "The Marriage of Kitty."
Edward Trevor, 26, Sheen-road, Richmond.

"THE BEAR-LEADERS" CO. Spring Tour.
WANTED, Jan. 27 (to follow Ipswich), Feb. 10 (to follow Windsor), March 17 (to follow T.R., Manchester) (Easter ?), April 7. Spring Bookings include Torquay, Cheltenham, York, Southport, Blackpool, New Brighton, Bournemouth, Brighton, Newcastle, Glasgow, Hull.
Apply, Miss Fellowes Robinson, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, Wanted, March 24, on, for Madge Crichton, in New Play, by Lechmere Worrall (author of "Ann").
Haldane Crichton. New Theatre, Oxford.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
"YOUNG BUFFALO" CO. in
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5, 12, a few Autumn dates. Offers invited.
Frank Mundill, Alex., Hull.
Next, Burton-on-Trent.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Jan. 20 and 27.
Loie Esmond, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

HARRY BRISTOW AND MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, good Theatres, Feb. 10 (?), 17, March 3, on, with exceptions. This and next, Grand T., Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Jan. 6, 13.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
Jan. 6,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 13, 27,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 13, 27,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

ARTHUR SHIRLEY and BEN LANDECK'S Plays of Grip with Delightful Comedy.
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"IN A MAN'S POWER;
or, NICK CARTER IN SOCIETY."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 13 (?), 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, March 10, 24.
Two Companies.
A few on, with exceptions.
Whit Booked at Palace, Newcastle.
Address, J. Forbes Knowles,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.
Wires, "Knowles, Playwright, London."

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls, Jan. 13, Jan. 20.
Jan. 13, Jan. 20.
Jan. 13, Jan. 20.
An instantaneous success,
An instantaneous success,
Hippodrome, Stockton.
Hippodrome, Stockton.
Record business.
Record business.
Undoubtedly the biggest spectacular show touring.
Over 50 people staged.
Wire immediately for Jan. 13, 20,
Jas. Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 27, 27, 27, Wanted, Feb. 3, 10, March 10.
W. T. Ivory,
67, Underhill-road, Dulwich, S.E.

TWO SUCCESSFUL PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Feb. 10, 17,
Feb. 10, 17,
Feb. 10, 17,
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
Six Specialities. Fifty Artistes.
Feb. 3, 10,
Feb. 3, 10,
Feb. 3, 10,
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Five Specialities. Fifty Artistes.
This week, "Cinderella," Halifax.
Next, Blackburn.
This week, "Whittington," Scarborough.
Next, Grantham.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Wire,
HARRY JOSEPH,
To-day, O.H., Scarborough. Next week, Grantham.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Scotland only.
"THE ARCADIANS."
March 17.
Also Theatre or Music Hall, South or Midland,
"ALADDIN" Pantomime,
Jan. 27,
once or twice nightly.
follow G.T., Croydon.
Apply, F. Leslie Moreton,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

Along the line the signal ran,
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."
WANTED, Feb. 10, 24, March 5,
Lloyd and Bown.
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 27, March 3, Easter.
Lloyd and Bown,
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

"WITNESS FOR DEFENCE" and "THE THIEF".
WANTED, Jan., on. Production travelled; played once or twice nightly. Weathersby, 3, Bedford-st.

MR. CHARLES STRETTON presents
"THE GAY LORD QUEX."
By Arthur Pinero.
WANTED, March 3, 24, First-class Company. Entire Production carried. H. Val Kimm, Managers' Club, Wardour-street, London.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY,
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Spring dates, Jan. 27.
Feb. 10, 17 (Suburbs or South).
March 10, 17, 24 (Midlands).
April 14 (West or Midlands).
May 12, 19, 26.
Address, Cecil Barth,
The Little Theatre, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, Feb. 10.
RUTLAND BARRINGTON,
supported by full West End Company,
in new play, "WAYS AND MEANS."
Apply, Eustace Burnaby,
32, Churton-street, Victoria, S.W.

"THE OLD HOME."
"THE OLD HOME."
Fifth Year of Tour.
Star cast, including Charles Franmore.
Staged with properties costing over £300. The entire production carried. There is nothing better.
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, March 10.
Feb. 10, March 10.
E. A'Dell, Hippo., Bilston.

MISS IDA MILLAIS,
"A DARK SECRET" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 13, 20, 27, April 7.
Henry Herne, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

This is without doubt the finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, scenery, and general mounting unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers delighted.

Copy of unsolicited letter from Mr. E. H. Page, of Blackburn.
"New Prince's Theatre,
"Blackburn.
"Dec. 7, 1912.

"To
"Arthur Hinton, Esq.,
"Junction Theatre,
"Manchester.

"Dear Sir,—I should be lacking not only in courtesy but also in a just appreciation of the exceptional merits of your fine play, 'Allah's Orchard,' if I neglected to convey to you the very high approval it has received from all classes of the inhabitants of this town, among which I beg to include myself.

"The fine acting, splendid scenery and the magnificent dressing of the piece, together with the exquisite dancing of the exceptionally large troupe of handsome lady dancers, has been the talk of the town and district.

"The general verdict is that, taken altogether, it is one of the finest dramatic productions that has visited Blackburn for years, and so different from the usual run of drama.

"The highly satisfactory pay-box returns only reflected this. I have much pleasure in enclosing you return contracts.

"Yours faithfully,
"(Signed) E. H. PAGE."

Wanted, Theatres,

March 3,
March 3,

March 17,
March 17,

March 24,
March 24,

onwards.
onwards.

Communications re dates to
ARTHUR HINTON,
GAIETY THEATRE, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,

Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,

Jan. 27,
Jan. 27,

March 3 and 10,
March 3 and 10,

April 7, 14, 21, and 28,
April 7, 14, 21, and 28,

May 5.
May 5.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

Jan. 13,
Jan. 13,

Jan. 27,
Jan. 27,

Feb. 10,
Feb. 10,

March 31,
March 31,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5,
May 5,

and onwards.
and onwards.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD Wish to inform Managers they have secured

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.

Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

March 3,
March 3,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.

NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.

Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.

Title will be announced later.

Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.

Telephone, 1732 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"THE CINGALEE."
Easter Week.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"ANN."
From the Criterion Theatre.
May 5, 12.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
A great new twice-nightly Drama.
March 10 and 17.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT;
or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By Percy Ford.
A Musical Comedy Sketch in 2 Acts.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

PANTOMIMES,
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Two Terrific Successes.
Breaking Records.
Two of the Smartest and Funniest Pantomimes ever produced.

Elaborate Productions. Star casts.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Jan. 27, Jan. 27, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Feb. 17, 24.
Once or twice nightly.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24.
Once or twice nightly.

Re dates, Fred Granville
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS. LTD.
"AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS."
STILL CAUSING A SENSATION!!!
Playing to Enormous Business!!!

WANTED, Feb. 3, Feb. 3, Feb 24, March 3.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The Dramatic Attraction that "Never" fails!
Wanted, Good Theatre for Easter Week

Re Dates, Fred Granville,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

Herbert Fuller's Great Successes.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."

Entire Production Carried. Star Cast.

WANTED, Theatres, Vacant, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 10, 24,
Vacant, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 10, 24,
March 3, 24, April 7, 14, 28, various, on.
"MOTHERLESS."
Vacant, May 19 (precede G., Stockton), June 9, (follow Palace, Newcastle), June 16, and various on (precede M., Glasgow, Dundee, Leicester, Halifax, Dewsbury, Bury, Rochdale, King's, Preston &c.). Huge success of "Aladdin" Pantomime. Offers invited for next year. Eden T. Bishop Auckland. Next, T.R., Stanley.

Wilson Howard's Tour.
"WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE" Co.

WANTED, Theatres for Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 24, March 24. Wire, Empire, Fleetwood; Aquarium, Yarmouth.

"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."
"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatres, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 24, March 3.
Tom H. Taylor, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

Charles Elderton's
"ALADDIN."
Eighth Year of Pantomime
and a greater success than ever.
Harry Levaine as Dame,
Herbert Fuller as Abanazar.
Florence Curran as Aladdin.

WANTED, First-class Theatre for production next year.

Managers come and see it for yourselves.
Dec. 30, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.
Jan. 6, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.
Jan. 13, Hippodrome, Darling.
Jan. 20, Coliseum, Whitley Bay.
Jan. 27, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Feb. 3, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
Feb. 10, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

Something Really Good Here.
O. SILVERSTONE'S MASCOTS.
For two weeks before Xmas receipts went up nightly. Monday in Xmas week, the worst night, and Saturday easily beat the Boxing Night.
Refer Seaham Harbour.
This week at Langley Moor Hippodrome, created tremendous enthusiasm on Monday; Tuesday easily above it; and on Wednesday broke all previous records for the building.
Money refused at every performance up to date. £100 to any charity if not true.

The shows creating this enthusiasm are
"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS."
and
"A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
WANTED, Jan. 6, 20, 27, Midlands or S. Wales, Feb dates, on.

Wires and letters,
Silverstone, Hippodrome, Langley Moor, Durham.

"THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST."

WANTED, Jan. 13, Feb. 3.
Excellent show. Refer.

Wire, Kimberley Theatre, Wolverhampton.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE," and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 17, March 24, 31, April 7.

Hamilton Stewart, T.R., Whitehaven.

Mr. Marcus Draper's Company,
"THE ETERNAL CITY,"
"THE CHRISTIAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 3 (?), 10, 17, April 21, 28.

Marcus Draper, Star Theatre, Swansea.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Benge and No. 1 Co., Great Western Play, "The Cowboy's Revenge." WANTED, Feb., March, April 7, 14, 21 (near London). May 12, various, onwards. Thanks Messrs. Broadhead, Jefferson, Abrahams, S. Barnards, Milton Bode, &c., for contracts and offers. Letters, T.R., Swansea.

Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's Co.,
"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
The Famous Strand Theatre Musical Comedy.

WANTED, April 14 and 21 (Midlands), once or twice nightly, Aug. 4, 11, 18, Sept. 1, and 8, on. Everything new. Magnificently staged. Harold Wagner, Playhouse, Stafford (3), Grand, Leek (3).

"HINDLE WAKES."

The play that is breaking records everywhere.
Now booking Summer and Autumn, 1913.

WANTED, Jan. 20 and Feb. 3.
Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.

South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.

Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.

This play has broken all records for business at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Also at other theatres.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

Beautiful Uniforms, &c.

Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.

Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

Another new play in active preparation.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.

Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.

South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.

Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.

Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 27, 1913; also Theatre, Christmas, 1913-14,
"SINBAD THE SAILOR."
Produced at Dalston Theatre.

Company:
Walton and Lester, Bobbie Grahame, Will Lazard, Alf. Maynard, Harry Ewins, Leonard Gautier, Peggy Monks, Dorothy Ewins, Rosie Effingham, Marie Dale, Iris Yohé, Eva Day, and The Maples (Amy and Fred).

Address,
G. Brydon Phillips,
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Jan. 27, 1913; also Theatre, Christmas, 1913-14,
"PUSS IN BOOTS."
Produced at New Theatre, Oxford.

Company:
Harry Maxam, Jack Lennol, J. Roker, Derek Powell, Clive Watts, Dennis and Morris, Max Bamburger, Hazel Glade, Gladys Erskine, Nan Nelbur, Grace Ingram, and the Three Dardinis.

Address,
G. Brydon Phillips,
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Jan. 27, 1913; also Theatre, Christmas, 1913-14,
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."
Produced Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

Company:
Chas. Gardiner, Fred Louin, Cribb and Cribb, A. Douglas, Chas. Comfrey, Walter James, Dess Dessborough, Lilian Rose, May Phillips, Connie Somers, Myrta Hamilton, Dorothy Trowell, Hero De Rance, and the Four Whitworths.

Address,
G. Brydon Phillips,
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,

CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
"ROLLICKING RORY."

Xmas week at
THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.

ALL RECORDS BROKEN.

HOUSE PACKED FROM FLOOR TO CEILING at
EXTRA EARLY DOOR PRICES.
From 9d. to 3s. (Twice nightly.)

GROSS FOR THE WEEK,
£609 18s. 6d.
£609 18s. 6d.
£609 18s. 6d.

Opened second week on Monday.

HUNDREDS TURNED AWAY.

Off on Sunday to Opera House, Cork, for 2 weeks. Then back to Alexandra Theatre, Belfast, for another two weeks.

Thanks Mr. and Mrs. J. Leicester Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Julian (the Four J's) for magnificent basket bouquet presented to Mrs. Mackey, and beautiful laurel wreath presented to myself.

WANTED, Feb. 3, Feb. 3,
Feb. 3,
Feb. 3,
to precede Osborne, Manchester.
ONLY VACANT DATE TILL SPRING, 1914.

Chalmers Mackey,
Alexandra Theatre, Belfast.
Next, Opera House, Cork.

CHARLES LOCKE'S COMPANIES.

"BONNIE MARY."
By H. F. Housden.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Feb. 10,
Feb. 10,
Feb. 10,
Feb. 10,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24,
March 24.
March 24.
March 24.
March 24.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
By H. F. Housden.
Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24,
Feb. 24.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
By H. F. Housden.
Feb. 17, precede O.H., St. Helens.
Feb. 17, precede O.H., St. Helens.
Feb. 17, precede O.H., St. Helens.
Feb. 17 precede O.H., St. Helens.
March 3, precede Hippo., Huddersfield.
March 3, precede Hippo., Huddersfield.
March 3, precede Hippo., Huddersfield.
March 3, precede Hippo., Huddersfield.
All Three Plays either

Once or Twice Nightly.

Wire or write, Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

The
CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO
Original
ITALIAN GRAND
OPERA COMPANY.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 27, Midlands or North.

Fourth Year of Tour in England.

Owing to the return from Italy of Cavaliere F. Castellano, the tour of this company will be continued under his personal management.

A number of new artistes direct from Milan.

Powerful Chorus.

Excellent Orchestra.

All communications re dates,
Cavaliere F. Castellano,
Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

"FANNY'S FIRST PLAY."

Vacant, Feb. 17, Easter, onwards.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres. Lionel Rignold's and Charles Macdona's Famous Company of Comedians.

Special Costumes.
Special Scenery.
Special company of 21 artistes.

Jan. 6, T.R., Leamington.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."

WANTED, Jan. 27, April 14, and Whit. to precede Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Rangor, Gloucester, Dublin, Aston, Elephant, Hammersmith, &c. Horace Stanley, 11 Grove-place Claypit-lane, Leeds.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly),
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly),
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly),
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly),
for
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S

Great New Throbbing Drama of Pulsing Western Life.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."

A TALE OF "THE BROKEN TRAIL."

LAUGHTER AND TEARS.
LAUGHTER AND TEARS.
LAUGHTER AND TEARS.

TEARS AND LAUGHTER.
TEARS AND LAUGHTER.
TEARS AND LAUGHTER.

WANTED, WANTED, WANTED,
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).

Straight from the Heart—with the Grip of a Vice.

REALISM AND SENSATION.
REALISM AND SENSATION.
REALISM AND SENSATION.
REALISM AND SENSATION.

Magnificently Played.
Sumptuously Dressed.
Gorgeously Mounted.
Superlatively advertised.

A Coherent, Vibrating Production.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."

Not a heterogeneous conglomeration of desultory disconnected incidents.

WANTED, WANTED, WANTED,
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).

COMEDY AND PATHOS.
COMEDY AND PATHOS.
COMEDY AND PATHOS.
COMEDY AND PATHOS.

Sustained Interest, Culminating in a Crescendo of Intense Excitement.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."

WANTED, WANTED, WANTED,
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).
March 10 (Once or Twice Nightly).

GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

JOE COLLINS' PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,

WANTED, JANUARY 20.
ROBINSON CRUSOE.

Played to nearly
5,000 people
at one matinée.

Enormous success,
this week,
Lewisham.

Next, Kilburn.

Cast includes:—
Chas. Paton,
Cling and Clancy.
Shaun Desmond,
Pete Almont,
Hana Hana,
Alma and Amos.

CINDERELLA.
JANUARY 20.

This week, Kilburn.

Next, Ilford.

Cast includes:—
Fred Spencer,
Rob Gilmore,
Jessie Wilton,
Louie Tinsley, &c.

Forty Performers.

Collins,
102, Dean-street,
Oxford-street, W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Star Heavy Woman, for robust heavy part; rehearse immediately. Wire or write, T. E. Ward, this, T.R., Stratford; next, Queen's, Leeds.

WANTED, Wanted, for end of Jan., Young, Fresh, Juv. Lady; tall. Photos. and full particulars, Box 4,170, "The Era."

WANTED, to rehearse London about Jan. 20, First-class Romantic Leading Man, with strong personality, tall (5ft. 10in. in stockinged feet), and well built; must have dash and go. Also tall Character Actor and Robust Character Comedian, height 5ft. 8in.

Apply in first instance, with full particulars, recent photos., which will positively be returned, to

Box 4,174, "The Era."

WANTED, Artiste, of the Lewis Sydney style (The Follies). Address, Manager, Gore Ouseley's Agency, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Character Actor and Small Part Man; also Versatile Actress, for Miss Cecilia Dare's West-End Repertory; long tour. Photos and all particulars, C. Milley Doyle, County Theatre, Bangor. Next, P.O., Llandudno.

WANTED, really good Light Comedian, tall and young, for Sketch; also full Company of recognised Dramatic Artistes for twice-nightly Drama, London theatre. Full particulars no callers. W. J. Mackay, 26, Agate-road, W.

WANTED, short Eccentric Comedian, sing and dance; rehearse Jan. 13 week; only funny comedians write; long and comfortable eng. to clever artiste. Following particulars important: Age, height, last 2 refs., if sing and dance, to T. E. Ward, T.R., Stratford; next, Queen's, Leeds.

WANTED, Good Singers, all voices, experienced or inexperienced, immediately. The New Stage and Concert Agency, 304, Regent-st., W.

WANTED, Artistes for Cinematograph Productions.
Send photos and particulars to
H. Thurston Harris, Manager,
Searchlight Film Manufacturing Co.,
Burham, Rochester, Kent.

WANTED, Miss Lilli Gale or Stafford (S. Africa and Bristol), last heard of in "The Maid and the Motor Man" Co., 1908, to receive news to her advantage. Will any person having slightest clue to this lady's present whereabouts, or who was ever acquainted with her, please communicate immediately with "Madame," 49, Brondesbury-villas, High-road, Kilburn, London?

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known. Geo. Ross, Knockabout Comedian, Vacant; girls' parts "Extra," Refer Fred. Kitchen. Ross, 8, Werneth-st., Queen's Park, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Pair of Funny Comedians for Ruffians. Wire. Also Vacancies for Smart Chorus Ladies.

Address,
Fred Granville,
To-day, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Next, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

WANTED, smart Pair of Sisters for Second Boy and Girl. Fullest pars., photos, age, terms, to Harry Joseph, T.R., Grantham.

GEORGE MALLINS' PANTOMIME TOURS.
WANTED, Sisters, Speciality, and Parts, Comedians, and Baggage Man; rehearse immediately; long tour, Ireland. Next week, Ballinrobe.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, smart Acting-Manager; young, energetic; must have good knowledge of bookkeeping; for resident position. Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, N.

WANTED, Smart, Experienced, and Reliable Acting-Manager, for First-class Suburban Variety House. Write, with lowest terms and references, to Box 4,166, "The Era."

WANTED, Resident-Manager for Sheerness. Apply, with references, stating age, experience of bars, etc., to B. Pareezer, Marina, Lowestoft.

WANTED, for "Bella Donna" Fit-up Company, Reliable Advance Agent, to start immediately. Full particulars and salary to A. Limpus, 7, Alexander-st., Bayswater. (No callers.)

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Lecturer, able to concoct good story.
Copies of references, lowest salary,
Box 4,157, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement (change ownership, Curzon Hall), by W. C. Burns, the well-known, successful Manager; any line; years' unique experience, life abstainer, highest refs. 57, Bath-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, by a thoroughly experienced Manager, Engagement. Theatre or varieties.
Apply, Box 4,154, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Resident-Manager. Thirty years' experience.
Jos. B. Ormerod, 56, Lime-st., Accrington.

WANTED, Engagement, by all-round practical Carpenter (bench hand); own tools. Address, C. W., 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement as First-class Operator. Any machine; any current. 14 years' experience. Satisfaction guaranteed. Operator, 176, Dyson's-road, Edmonton, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Musical-Director (violinist) for Lancashire Music Hall, to open Jan. 13; must be a variety man; modern library; others need not apply; good salary; references and where working. Apply, Box 4,165, "The Era."

WANTED, Musical-Director, Vio.; permanent to suitable person. Terms and full particulars to E. Pryce, Pavilion, Abertillery.

WANTED, Musical Director and Violinist. Apply, personally, at Sadler's Wells Theatre, between 11 and 2; or the Foresters, 7-11.

WANTED, First-class Conductor and Full Band, for the New Hippodrome, Aldershot, to be opened in early February.
Apply in first instance to C. Sounes, Empire, Kingston.
Letters must be marked "A."

WANTED, Conductor-Pianist, for touring pantomime; open at once. Send particulars, lowest terms, to Barrett, Empire Theatre, Denton, Manchester.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Conductor (restaurant orchestra); must be of good appearance and address, must know the business thoroughly, and brilliant soloist.
Apply (by letter only), with copies of last two references, to
Mr. Louis Baxter,
44, Hanover-street, Liverpool,

WANTED, to open Monday, Pianist-Conductor (to combine another instrument when required). Wire lowest terms. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Good Leader, 1st Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, for Provinces; used to high-class Variety.
Shackleton, Hippodrome, Brighton.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Leader (first violin); open Monday next, Jan. 6. Wire lowest terms, Macdona.

WANTED, immediately, Gentleman, Expert Solo Violinist, for West of England; good salary. Also Pianist and Pipe Organist combined (orchestral). Evenings only, for London.
Address, Madame Walter,
29, Southampton-street, Fitzroy-square, London.

WANTED, First Violin and Pianist, to open Monday, Jan. 6; must be thoroughly experienced in Variety. Apply, with terms, age, and refs., to EDWARD WILLIAMS, Musical Director, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, First Violin and 'Cello Players.
Apply, Thos. Walker, M.-D.,
Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good First Violins.
Will Smithson,
Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Watford, First Violin and 'Cello. Lowest terms and references.
Apply, Lionel G. Holding, Manager.

WANTED, Good First and Second Violin; permanent. Terms and refs.,
Isaac Hudson, M.-D., for Mr. C. S. Birch,
Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Violin (Rep.) and Clarinet, to open at once; and 'Cellist, to open Jan. 13.
Terms and refs. to Wilhelm Oskar,
Conductor, Albert Hall, Stanley, S.O., Co. Durham.

WANTED, Violins, 'Cello, Flute, Oboe, Pianist, First-class; Pictures, Herne Hill; permanency; afternoons, evenings; day's holiday fortnightly; send terms, experience, if double handed; no callers.
Zimmermann, 48, Batoum-gdns., Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, First Cornet and First Clarinet. Terms, shares. Pitching town band. Good opening. Apply, Secretary, 20, Brookfield-street, Bideford.

WANTED, Jan. 13, good First Cornet and 'Cello. Permanency to suitable men.
Apply, Empire, West Hartlepool.

HIPPODROME, NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, immediately, First-class Horn Player. State age, references.
Address, Albert C. Duncan, Manager.

GEORGE MALLINS' PANTOMIME TOURS.
WANTED, Clarinet, Bass, and Pianist: join immediately; long tour, Ireland. Next week, Ballinrobe.

WANTED, at once. Double Bass and Drums; must be experienced, sober, steady, and reliable. Apply, Rodger, Manager, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

EMPIRE THEATRE, PRESTON.
WANTED, Bass, Second Cornet, and Leader, to open Jan. 6. Apply, with references, to Alan W. Young, General-Manager.

HIPPODROME, NORWICH.
WANTED, 'Cello; open Monday; permanency to competent man. Wire, terms, refs.,
Herbert Stone, M.-D.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class 'Cello, to open Jan. 15.
Terms, refs., Gordon E. Craig, Manager.

WANTED, for King's, Edinburgh, a good, reliable 'Cello; can open at once. Please state age, and enclose two references, A. Douglas Willcox.

STOLL TOUR,
CHATHAM EMPIRE.
WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, for above hall; permanency if satisfactory. Open Jan. 20. Apply, with terms and references, to John H. Russell, Musical-Director.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open Jan. 6; A.M.U. terms. Apply, H. O. Callaghan, Mus.-Dir., Palace Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, to open Monday, Jan. 13, a good Flautist; permanency to right man. Apply, stating age, terms, &c., to Albert A. Phillip, Conductor, Poole's Picture Palace, Aberaman, Aberdae, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Proprietor important London Cinema desires to get in touch with really clever English pianist of experience; an artist of sympathetic temperament capable of faithfully interpreting pictures of every description; must have extensive repertoire, be brilliant, memorise, and extemporise or read at sight as required; permanent good engagement right individual; grand piano and beautiful pipe organ installed. Apply, Box 4,164, "The Era."

WANTED, for long engagement, if suitable, Lady Pianists, Organist, and 'Cellist; must be good soloists. Dorothea Vincent, Palace Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, a Portable Harmonium Player; preference given to a singer; pitching; good living for a good worker; a good vamper would do. Apply, Mr. Alexander, 35, Clifton-street, Bideford.

WANTED, a First-class English Concertina Player, must be good, for music halls already booked; own treble instrument. Terms, &c., to Middy, 39, Victoria-st., Bradford.

WANTED, Good Side Drummer, with effects for cruise on the Mediterranean, Jan 31 until April. Possibly also Solo Cornetist. Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassist [illegible] editerranean Liners. Applicants state age, experience, and give names and addresses of two persons in good positions for references of personal character.
Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors,
14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Ladies' Band, of Six Performers, required for Open-air Bandstand. To perform three times daily during season. Commencing Whit Monday and ending Sept. 20.
Apply, A. Barnes, Marine Lake, Rhyl.

WANTED, to commence at once, Musicians, Saxhorn, Bombardon, Trombone, Euphonium, and Cornet; single men preferred; for tenting season also. Please write in to F. Ginnett, 300, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

BANDSMEN REQUIRED.
WANTED, Men for a crack Regimental Band stationed in India, playing the following instruments:—
Two Violins, One 'Cello.
Two Cornets, Two Clarinets.
Applicants should be twenty years of age, and ready to enlist. Good bonuses offered, and there are exceptional prospects for good men. Reply, giving details and full particulars, to
Box No. 12,
C/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street,
Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Experienced Double Drummer. Steady and thoroughly reliable, to open Jan. 13. W. C. Horner, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

WANTED, immediately, Instrumentalists (Gentlemen), all lines (Harpist included), for high-class concerts, London and Provinces. Amateurs save stamps. References, lowest terms, and full particulars. Zingari, 10, Grand-parade, Brighton.

WANTED, a Few Good Musicians for Enlistment in, or transfer to, a line battalion at present stationed in India. Good prospects for good performers. Apply, stating full particulars, to Bandmaster, the Connaught Rangers, Curragh

WANTED, Professional Men to Join the Nat. Fed. of Professional Musicians for business purposes and mutual aid. 39, Gerrard-st., London, W. 'Phone, 9118 City.

WANTED. Musicians (to save confusion), before accepting engagements in Glasgow and district, should communicate with W. Murdock, Secretary, A.M.U., 44, Napiershall-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Post as Musical Director or Pianist-Conductor; thoroughly experienced in drama, varieties, pictures, &c.; large orchestral library of classical music; excellent refs. Sydney Grahame, 22, Avon-street, Evesham, Worcs.

WANTED, Position as Bandmaster (successful teacher, &c.), Leader with Circus (experienced writer), or Solo Cornet; orchestral or military; efficient and reliable. Charles Seymour, 35, Capstone-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement by well-known experienced Conductor-Pianist, thoroughly competent; any business; large library. Address, Box 4,150, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, good Leader. Thoroughly experienced Theatre (Berlin, Leopol, Warsaw), Variety, and Concert business (German, Austrian, and Russian cafés and hotels). C/o Mr. Bromberg, 39, Berwick-st., W.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin in Picture Theatre, or other business. Louis Schmidler, 4, Tolmer-square, Hampstead-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, 1st or 2nd; young, steady, reliable; exp. theatre, var., oratorial; transposer; give first week's salary permanency in London, or commission. 183, Shrewsbury-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Clar.; any business; good refs.
Box 4,167, "The Era."

WANTED, by Clarinet, Engagement in London; experienced in picture business.
39, Tracey-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass; fully experienced, all-round reliable player; any business; steady. Basso, 53, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, London.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement on South Coast; summer or permanent; experienced in all lines; highest references. 250, Whetley-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by thoroughly experienced Trombone; any business. Address, G. Thrussell, 8, Northumberland-street, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe; thoroughly experienced, theatre and variety concert business; highest references. Cook. 12, Granville-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, some experience, wishes to join professional trio-quartette party. Box 4,168, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Good, Experienced Flautist; young. Excellent references. Theatre or music hall, London. Address, Box 4,160, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Flautist, thoroughly experienced, deputising, &c., disengaged Jan. 6. 37, Myddleton-square, London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo: theatre, music hall; London or provinces; good London refs. Flautist, 8, Poplar-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by excellent Pianist and Violinist (ladies); thoroughly experienced any business. Box 4,173, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, MME. WALTER can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras, three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, the Strebelle Ladies' Orchestra now open for engagements. All good musicians. Large repertoire. Terms, Mlle. Strebelle, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Winternitz, Ladies' Orchestras, Trios, Quartettes, or Individual Musicians Supplied at shortest notice; immense library brilliant music. 31, Alexandra-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, High-class Picture Business for Trio, or more; First-class Repertoire; reference good. Apply, terms, &c., to Conductor, Box 4161, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

BAKER'S AMERICAN CIRCUS.
Winter Quarters, Clones, Ireland.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Animal Acts, Stock Whip Manipulators, Troupe of Arabs or Japanese, Useful Circus Artistes, Irish Clowns and Comedians, Bandsmen, Grooms, and Tentmen. Commencing Easter Monday, March 24, at Waterford. Will buy three beast wagons.

WANTED, at once, Single Young Man; good knockabout, gymnastic tumbler.
Full particulars, age, height, weight, lowest salary,
Box 4,132, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, for Wild Australia, touring season, Cowboys, Whip Manipulators, Rough Riders, Boy Scouts, Sharpshooters, Boomerang Throwers, Troupe of Arabs or Maoris; any suitable Attractions to add to this encampment, which will be double the size of the last season's tour, please apply to
F. Ginnett,
300, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Ireland, 1913 tour, Good Novelty and Sensational Acts; also Riders, with or without own horses. Nothing too big. All coms. to Mrs. Duffy, Circus, Clonmel, Ireland.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors to Note
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS,
Acrobatic Three-horse Riders, after surprising the public in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Spain, and France, have met with a record success, success, success, at Sir Robert Fossett's Great Circus, the Royal Agricultural Hall, London. Cheered to the echo at every performance. The only act of the kind ever seen in England. No circus complete without the Three Royal Ohmys. The most up-to-date show in the world. The Three Royal Ohmys wish to thank Sir Robert Fossett for the grand New Year's Treat that he gave them and his company on New Year's morning. May good luck and success attend him and his dear wife and family. Note the Royal Ohmys will be at liberty Feb. 17. Address, Agricultural Hall, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.

WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, Jan. 20, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

NEW HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.

WANTED, for future Dates, from February, onwards, big Comedy Acts, Specialities, Star Comedians, &c., &c. Send list of bookings, together with absolute lowest terms, to
Clarence Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, for Surrey Theatre, London, S.E., Acts New to London, willing to give private audition, with view to booking.

Write in immediately.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Wanted, for Jan. 20, Big Sensational Attractions, acts full of novel surprises, pantomimical and comedy acrobatic troupes, first-class scenic productions, spectacular musical acts, and anything with strong magnetic drawing powers. Address, with lowest terms and samples of printing (if any) to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, All Lines, Comedians, Serios, Comedy and Speciality Acts, Jan. 13, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c.,
Edgar Stebbings & Co.,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Edgar Stebbings, sole booking agent for Hippodrome, Buxton; Princes, Llandudno, &c.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Monday next, onwards, Big Novelties, Tops and Acts all lines, for the Leading Provincial Halls; also for South Wales. Full list of bookings, rock bottom terms, lithos, &c. Artistes on my books please keep me fully posted.
WILL LUND'S AGENCY.
WILL LUND'S AGENCY.
197, Edge-lane.
Liverpool.
Wires, "Comedy." 'Phone, 682 Royal.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Star Top Liners.
Also Good Turns, all branches,
Jan. 13, 20, 27, onwards.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams. "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

WANTED, Four Big Star Tops,
Four Big Star Tops,
for Jan. 13, 27.
for Jan. 13, 27.
Sensational Attractions, Big Productions,
Comedy Acts, or anything big.
From £50 to £200.
Wire quick for Jan. 13.
Tel. address, "Cliquot, Manchester."
(Letters), 9, Monton-st., Denmark-rd., Manchester.

Clive Watts' Agency. 138, Oglander-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E. Licensed by L.C.C.
WANTED, Artistes, All Lines. Lowest terms, date sheet and perm. add. essential.
Clive Watts, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Big Acts, all lines, Jan. 13, and on. Stars quote salary and sharing terms.
Geo. Aytoun's Agency,
7, Prima-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, at once,
FIRST-CLASS ACROBAT.
Pirouette Backs, Flip-Flap Backs, Row of Backs essential.
Salary no object to a good man.
Apply, Trampoline, 26, Melbourne-road, Merton, Surrey.

WANTED, Second Mounter and Tumbler; state tricks, age, and height, with lowest terms; long engagement if suitable. Box 4,169, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Three-to- Worker.
Address, with tricks, terms, &c.,
Box 4,159, "The Era."

WANTED, in January, for First-class Troupe, one or two Smart Girls from 14 to 16 years; must be small; good impersonator or mimic. Write full particulars, Boston Palace, Pembroke Dock.

WANTED, Twelve Young Ladies for a Comedietta on the Music Halls; must have excellent voices, good figures, pretty, and able to dance a little. Box 4,126, "The Era."

WANTED, for High-class Troupe, first-class Girl Vocalist; must be small, and over 14, and possess strong, good voice; a most comfortable engagement for a clever, refined girl. Full particulars to Tolfree and Heath, Hippo., Wakefield.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.

WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WAN

WILL COLLINS AND COMPANY.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Big Speciality Acts, Big Comedy &c

Salary or Sharing,
for the
Hippodrome, Exeter.

Will Collins and Company,
Broadmead House,
Panton-street, S.W.

EMPIRE, HEDNESFORD.
CHANGE OF PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, all Variety Artistes and Drama Companies holding dates for the above note that I, F. M. Barber, present proprietor have disposed of same to Mr. R. A. Maddo Marchfield Park-avenue, Worcester, who tak possession Jan. 13. Write to him re all contra for that date onwards. (All contracts Palace, Rugeley, &c., are in order.
I am open to Rent, Purchase, Partner, Manage Good Picture Hall, Music Hall, Theatre, where capital, experience (lifetime), a brains will gain a return. Write direct, Montague Barber, Hednesford, Staffs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WAN

STUART CLEVELAND,
supported by his No. 1 Company,
in the successful heart-to-heart Sketch,
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
WANTED, Jan. 20, April 21.
Wanted, May 19, 26.
Wanted, June 9, 23, 30.
Wanted, July 7, on, with exceptions.
The Domestic Sketch par excellence.
It Never Fails. It Never Fails.
It Never Fails. It Never Fails.
Special Properties. Special Posters.
Special Special Special
Attraction. Attraction. Attraction.
Stuart Cleveland,
in "A Policeman and a Man."
Apply to the Principal Agents; or
Stuart Cleveland, Hippodrome, Nelson.

WANTED, Feb. 3, 10, and 17, by ALFRED WELLESLEY,
in
"Uncle's Courtship."
Three artistes; runs 18 minutes; one continuous laugh from all classes of audience. Booked into 1915 by Moss'. Stoll. L.T.V., Syndicate Halls, De Frece, Barrasford, Macnaghten, London Pavilion, Alfred Butt, &c., &c.
Add., Theatre Royal, Hanley; playing Dame.

WANTED, Monday, Fred Read and his Concertina. Thanks to Mr. Steve Smith for contracts. Wire, this, Theatre Royal, Sacriston, co. Durham.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, Jan. 6, Arculus, unique Musical Specialty.
Wire, Palladium, Weymouth.

WANTED, Jan. 13 and 27 Theo Mauritus, the famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
Aquarium, Scarborough.
Jan. 20, Palace, Chesterfield.
Share or salary.

WANTED, Known, Peter Adair, England's greatest Athlete, will shortly appear in his elegant Athletic Act. Peter is 70. Particulars, address, c/o "The Era." Adair's telegraphic address, "Cocum (not Cocoa), London," is sufficient address.

WANTED, Jan. 6 and Jan. 13, by Venturini, Great Illusion Act; three new big Illusions; two or three lady assistants; great sensational novelty; sure draw; good Top or Bottom. This, big hit, Pavilion, Chorley, Lancs.

WANTED, by Monsieur Albert, Continental Conjurer, vacant, through transferring, Jan. 6. Clever new show. Can work small stage. Wire, Albert, Hotel Fazakerley, Chorley.

WANTED, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, 24, and onward, "IT," that Original Comedy Pot-Pourri Act, presented by Rohde and Roche. Jan. 6, New Palace, Irlam, Manchester. Address, 12, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in up-to-date Comedy Act, introducing singing, dancing, patter, and the cleverest tumbler before public; just concluded London season (14 weeks). Vacant, Jan. 13, 20, Feb. 3, 10. Monday next, Hippodrome, Loughborough. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Thorpe and Coe, presenting "My Burglar" and "The 1st of the 4th." Vacant Monday, Jan. 6. Wire, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Feb. 3, on (follow Guernsey).
S. H. Galligan,
The Popular Irish Ventriloquist.
23, Wolseley-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
ELTON AND ELMA,
Knockabout Triple Bar Act.
Liberty, March 10.
Monday, Palace, Manchester.

CHEVALIER PONCHERY and MLLE. ZADIE.

Novelty Stage Wire Act and High Rope.
WANTED, Jan. 6, and on (Scotland preferred), Add., Jonas-st. Carnival, Edinburgh, N.B.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 6, 13, by the sensational Hodgini Trio, Continental Stage Aerial Gymnastic Wonders, in Scena, "Fun at the Seaside." Own scenery, posters, lithos. Also Mlle. Deton Et Cie, marvellous juggling balancing act on the wire. Wire for Monday, Hodginis, 205, Cooksey-road, Smallheath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Jan. 13, 20, and 27, by Atlas and Beautiful Vulcana Troupe, world's greatest Athletic Artistes. Vulcana and Sisters Atlas are the only champion lady athletes in this or any other country. One, two, or three turns. Share or salary.
Conclude Sat., Premier Pal., Somercotes. Jan. 6., Emp., Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Known, Les Ostlers, Comedy Flying Ring Performers; liberty. Monday. Wire, 23, Trafalgar-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Bradshaw Family, six in number, expert Xylophones, Cornets, and Bell Soloists, Vac., Jan. 20 and Feb. 3, on. This, Grand, Wakefield; next, Empire, Goldthorpe.

WANTED, Known, at liberty, Monday, the Sensational Midget Pony, "Wee Buller" smallest alive; carnivals, exhibitions, shops. Shares or salary. Wire, Melville, Rathbone, Portobello.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

KURSAAL,
LITTLEHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Concert Parties, March 31, May 5, Sept. 22.
HARRY JOSEPH.
This, O.H., Scarborough. Next, T.R., Grantham.

WANTED, Concert Parties, from June to September, for Pier Pavilion, Ryde.
Reg. Wishart (Lessee and Manager),
C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Costume Concert Party, Pier Pavilion, July 21, seven weeks, possible tour to follow. Ladies and Gents., all lines; up-to-date repertoire; evenings only; no Sundays. Fullest pars., lowest terms, correct age, recent photo.
Faiers, Piermaster, Walton-on-Naze.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

T——OUGH OF WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE REGIS.

ARTHUR ANTED, Known, the Amusement Committee are prepared to receive TENDERS for the ARTHUR sive privilege of using the Concert Platform, n as "The Sea View Concert Platform," te on the Foreshore within the said Borough, HIGH-CLASS MUSICAL ENTERTAIN- NTS on WEEK-DAYS during the SUMMER ASON,, viz.: From June 30 to the end of tember, 1913, or, if desired, commencing at an lier date, to be hereafter arranged.

The Entertainments must be guaranteed to be first-class order and subject to the conditions be obtained of the undersigned.

Tenders, containing not less than two special eferences as to ability, &c., quoting a sum per eek or for the whole season, to be sent to me n or before January 20, 1913, endorsed "Tender r Concert Platform."

By The Chairs required for the use of the audience This Produc ust be hired of the Committee at 25s. per 100 airs per week.

The Electric Light will be laid on to the Con- Cos ert Platform and Dressing Rooms, with the ecessary fittings, at the commencement of the ason. The hirer to pay the cost of the current sumed weekly, and also for the replacing of y fittings which may be broken or damaged.

The Committee do not pledge themselves to ept the highest or any Tender.

In brief WALTER R. WALLIS, Committee Clerk. unicipal Offices, Weymouth.

BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE REGIS.

Copy WANTED, Known, the Amusement Committee are prepared to engage for a period of ten weeks, commencing on June 30, 1913, a High-class Concert Party, consisting of not less than six performers, for the purpose of giving enter- "To tainments in the Palm Court at the Pier.

" Applications, with two recent testimonials as o ability, &c., also photograph of troupe and stating amount required to be paid per week, to "Dbe forwarded to the undersigned on or before court Monday, Jan. 20, 1913.

exce Walter R. Wallis, Orch Secretary Amusement Committee. high Municipal Offices, Weymouth. the i to in "T nifice exqui troup talk "T it is has from "T refle you

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.
President, Mr. Patrick Collins.

WANTED, Known, the Annual Business Meeting will take place at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, Manchester, on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1913, at 11 a.m.
Important Business—
The Adoption of Annual Reports,
The Election of Officers, and
Other Business.
Members are Particularly Requested to Attend.
T. HURST, Hon. Secretary.
T. HORNE, Chaplain and Organiser.

WANTED, immediately, Good Monogram Worker. Reply at once, Thompson, Northern Syndicate Exhibition, Town Hall, West Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

G WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Boxball Bowling Alley; splendid investment; cost £35; cash offer or jewellery. 34, Marine-parade, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors; Exhibitions, Carnivals, &c. Address. A. Milton, 77, Virginia-st., Southport.

WANTED, to Let, temporarily, Shop, in main street of Doncaster; rent £6 per week. Alfred Stubbs, Askern, Doncaster.

WANTED, to Let, Nottingham, Fair Grounds and Buildings, west side New Carrington-street, Nottingham; new street, now 70ft. wide; lock-ups suit auctioneers, &c.; first winter carnival. For plan, Cooley Estate, 5, Market-street, Nottingham. Interviews by appointment.

WANTED, to Let, short tenancy, small Shop, facing Victoria Station, Nottingham, near corner of five thoroughfares; all cars stop facing, penny fare ends. Letters, Cooley, Estate, 5, Market-st. Interviews by appointment.

WANTED, Space or Hall, to Exhibit Large Work of Art, now and coming season. Letters, Manager, 23, Burchell-rd., Leyton, E.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a "Cinderella" Production, now on tour; can be seen next week, at Hippodrome, Huddersfield, or Jan. 13, at Victoria, Burnley. Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire; up to date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Picture Palace on South Coast; genuine going concern; receipts could be greatly increased under personal management; present proprietors no spare time. For particulars, apply, by letter, to B., 18, Braybrooke-road, Hastings.

PICTURE PALACE.

WANTED, Known, excellent premises suitable for converting into same; one of the best positions in Dublin. Particulars from C. Coates, Ardnardeen, Castle-avenue, Clontarf, Dublin.

WANTED, to Sell, Lease, 4½ years, Picture Palace, fully equipped; Yorkshire seaside resort; low rent; all at £250. Box 4,171 "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell immediately, one of Keith Prowse's Orchestrions, cost £320, very little used, no reasonable offer refused. Apply, Price, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Stage Fit-up, including proscenium front, about 24ft. square, with opening 17ft. high by 21ft. wide. Frame fit-up allowing a depth of about 14ft. Proscenium wings, act drop, and two side rostrums for extending the stage are also included. For further particulars apply to Secretary, Royal Academy of Music, York Gate, Marylebone-road, N.W.

TIP-UP THEATRE SEATS.

WANTED, to Sell, 500, Upholstered with (Lister's) Finest Crimson Plush, with stitched roll, and stuffed with best flocks; Birch Frames, and 3-ply spring; deep curved backs, gilt enamelled and varnished standards; guaranteed 3 years, and are brand new. There is a row of brass studs and banding around front of seat, and can be supplied in 18in. or 20in. centres. My price for any quantity 5s. 3d. each, worth 13s. 6d. If required without arms, 6d. less. Send for a sample and be convinced of this wonderful bargain to Wm. Pollard, 26, Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Porcupines, stand captivity and long shipments; sound, healthy, attractive, vegetarians, inoffensive and inexpensive; unequalled drawing cards for Circuses, Zoos, Carnivals, window displays, &c. Linwood Flint, No. Waterford, Me., U.S.A.

WANTED, to Sell, Two splendid Toy Fox Terrier Dog Pups, 10 weeks old; also Mother; well bred. 18 months old; good worker; skips, jumps, rides pony, &c. Zoological Universe, P.A., 44, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Known, for Sale,
CARLTON'S
CARLTON'S
CARLTON'S
famous
famous
famous
MYSTERIOUS CROSS ILLUSION SENSATION.
MYSTERIOUS CROSS ILLUSION SENSATION.
MYSTERIOUS CROSS ILLUSION SENSATION.

Featured every Hall of note in Great Britain.
Entirely new for abroad.
Splendid living for enterprising showman.
Can be performed anywhere, either in the Ring, Sideshow, or Stage.

Six Sheet and Double Crowns Pictorials. Letters, Carlton, Westwood, Acacia-grove, New Malden.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, First-class Pantomime Production, First-class Pantomime Production,
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
Now Playing Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, complete "Aladdin" Pantomime; can be seen nightly, week Jan. 6, Theatre Royal, Ryde. Particulars, apply Spink.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, smart, original, Farcical or Musical Comedy Sketch; must be quick working or useless; star comedy part; about 4 or 5 people, 3 males, 2 females; good price for right stuff. Johnny McElroy, Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Scenery, cheap, for spot cash, cave front, with mouth, back for interior, rock wings (good condition), borders, &c. State dimensions and lowest price, and where seen, Box 4,172, "The Era."

WANTED to Purchase, Fire-proof Curtain, for 20 feet proscenium, opening 18 feet high. Mr. Shrimpton, 54, Uxbridge-road, Hanwell, W.

WANTED, to Buy, Walking Globe. Write particulars, Chris Rapier, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, "A Soldier and a Man," "Destroyer of Men," Sutton Vane, Herbert Leonard, Frank Harvey Dramas. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, an exceptionally strong Drama, by Nita Rae. Address, 15, Tabley-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in February, and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield; any kind of good-class entertainment; scenery, electric lighting. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, for long or short periods, Albert Hall, Swansea; accommodation 2,000; also music hall, accommodation 300; both electrically lighted and heated; centrally situated, five minutes from G.W.R. station. For terms, apply, Geo. Phelps, Secretary.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by Instrumentalist, to join lady or gent., musical turn (or comedy). Lingi, 14, Raleigh Lodge, Brixton-hill, London.

WANTED, by Lady, late of well-known star double turn, Gentleman Partner, for new original comedy duologue, written by E. C. Matthews. Everything ready. Must have good business abilities and able to do the booking. Performers only write. Address, M. V., 61a, Hackford-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Partner, for London Cinema, £300 for quarter share. Sound going concern. Can draw £2 10s. weekly. Principals only. Box 4,050, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman with large connection in Music Halls and Theatres would consider a partnership in a good variety agency. In confidence, Box 4,162, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Managing-Director with considerable influence would entertain an interest in an established dancing academy or troupe. In confidence. Box 4163, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

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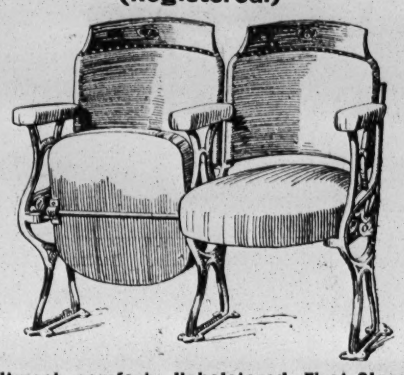

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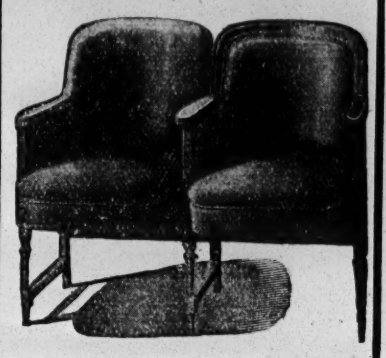

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RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

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They did not mention the name of the Agent **WILL DALTON** W.D.

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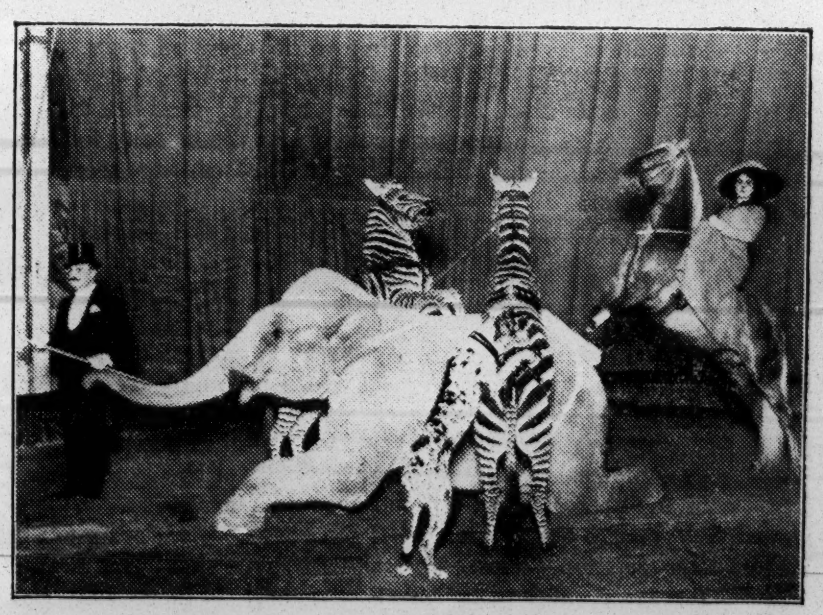

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Solo, Green & Wood, Doring's Pigeons, Bioscope, Irene Richards.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bros. O'Brien, Fred Keeton, Katie Sandwina, The Three Rascals, Bioscope, "The River Girl," Master Garnett, Sisters Storm, Carmen Turia.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Will H. Fox, Jack Smiles, Cornalla & Eddie, Russell Trio, "Arms and the Girl," Australian McLeans, "The Concealed Bed," Bioscope, Williams & Parker.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Pantomime production "Aladdin."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Wilde, Frank H. Fox, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ferry Corwey, Tom Parker, Cooper & Lait, Great Weiland, Houdini, Caselli Sisters, Bioscope, Peter & Potts, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Three Prestons, Keen & Waller, Ted Hopkins, Charburn's Stars, Jen Latona, Walter Munroe, Dave Bryant, Bioscope, Harry Simms, Marjorie Dawson.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Four Amaranths, Howard & Harris, The Paulhan Team, Whit Cunliffe, Arthur Young, Bert Symes, Bioscope, Daisy Sloan.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

The Four Vandyckes, Margaret Payne, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Phillis Longville, George Crowther, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Veronica Brady, Alf Chester, Ed. Lawrence, The Craggs, Jock McKay, Terry Lambert, Marie Kendall, Vernon Troupe, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Aldon & Loupe, Woodward's Seals, Weston & Lynch, Wullie Walker, Gene Greene, Huley & Bent, Roland Bros., Langley & Inger, Bioscope.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

John Tiller's "Forty Thieves."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for : –

Pantomime Production, "Goody Two Shoes" and "Mother Hubbard."

Managers please note by mutual arrangement the Grand and Metropole Theatres, Glasgow, work in conjunction.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Marcus & Gartelle, Harry Bedford, George Lashwood, Scottie Provan, La Pia, Taylor's Monkeys, Bellman & Poluski, Bioscope, Edith Fink.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Mint & Mart, T. Jardine Ellis, Edie Nella, Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Langinos, Campbell & Barber, Olive Armidale, Phil Ray, Hart & Johnson, Rose Cambry, Bioscope, Harry Grey.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Durant Bros., Alf Gibson, Smythe & Hartman, Alexandra Dagmar, Mrs. Graham Goring & Co., Spiegler's Quintette, The Two Hollanders, C. J. Johnson, Marie Kay, Bioscope.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Donaldson Bros., W. T. Ellwanger, Torcat's Roosters, Bioscope, Chas. Cardow, Bella & Bijou, Louis Alvarez, Pyck, Tholl & Taylor, Rich Taylor, Yorke & Adams.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, Mlle. Golda, Dort & Leonard, Walter Bellonini, Herbert Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, Bioscope, Wilfred Burnand, O'Hanlon & Rivkin.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Archie Naish, The Haytors, Russell & Held, Leipzig, Sisters Finney. Ernie Grossmith, Percy Honri, Bioscope, Henry Helme.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

John Tiller's Pantomime "Cinderella."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mlle. Regia, Four Rays, Les Marbas, Trixie Marris, Bioscope, Donal McDougal, Mr. & Mrs. Manning, Mike S. Whallen, Les Astis, "The Lodgers."

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: —

Will Van Allen, Isa Wise, George Rae, American Rag-time Octette, Quigley Bros., Nelson Jackson, Bioscope, Wood, Wells & Wilkins, Bros. Miller, Little Ena Dayne.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Ike & Will Scott, Albert Rees, Paris Trio, Real McKays, Horace Goldin, Gertie Gitana, Rose Hayes, Bioscope.

GRAND CARNIVAL, WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Sargy's Great Wrestling Troupe, Ferry, Bellclair Bros., Annette & Lillian, Ray's Football Skating Girls, Lane & O'Donnell, Carpatti Bros., Shanaria's Goats, Lonis Girtis, Legion of Frontiersmen Band, and all side shows engaged.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Bros. Curran, Four Ar conis, Bety Barclay & Baritone, Paulton & Dooley, Magini, Friend & Downing, L'Incognita.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Olga, Elgar & Eli Hudson, Four Royal Scots, Athos Troupe, The Keppels, McLallan & Carson, "The Mumming Birds."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Burns' Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—

The Rawsons, Lizette Trio, Eva Le Clerq, Fred Edwards, Pictures, Madge Northcott, Rose Gower.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Polly & Day, Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Ena Florence, Bioscope, Alec Kennedy, Tony Nelson.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Harry Day's pantomime "Cinderella."

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GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Pantomime production "Dick Whittington."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Jan. 6, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
Oswald Williams, Harry Tate & Co., Zigeuner Quartette, Wish Wynne, G. H. Chirgwin, Florence Esdaile, Three Van Dammes, Bros. Dean, Princess D'Aryaba, Harry Zetter, Mart and Pep, Chas. Whittle, La Belle Linda, Brown and Nevarro, Tony Black, Herbert Rule, Bioscope.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Alfred Lester, Cinquevalli, Bert Coote & Co., Sam Stern, Two Bobs, Ernest Shand, Dora Lyric, W. S. Wyndham, George Formby, Ed. E. Forde, Neil Kenyon, Gus Elen, Carl Muller, Bioscope.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd, Joe Peterman's Co., "A Seaside Review," G. H. Chirgwin, Fregolia, Ernest Shand, Mary Law, Bros. Ford, Tom Woottwell, Mlle. Eldee, Pasquali Bros., George Formby, Cole and Rags, Dusty Rhodes, Gus Garrick, Arthur Leslie, Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
George Barrett & Co., Seven Perezoffs, Joe Peterman, George Picketts, the Big Joss, Mary Forbes, Stanley Turnbull, George Formby, John Macaulay, Armon and Armon, Vera Saunders, Herbert Rule, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ten Loonies, Flora Cromer, Babby Leach, Florrie Groves, Ethel Stephenson, Lolita, Ed. E. Forde, Tom Moore, Frank Harwood, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Day's Co., "Dick Whittington," Bert Earle, John Macaulay, Elsie Kerry, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
R. C. Buchanan's Co., "Sinbad the Sailor," Tony Black, Sam Spira, Violet Conyss, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Day's Co., "Cinderella."

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
Fred Carpenter's Co., "Babes in the Wood."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Harry Roxbury's Co., "Mother Goose."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bert Coote & Co., Carter Livesey & Co., Marie Pera & Co., Nellie Wallace, Lallie Hall, Ryder Slone, Five Petleys, Fred Wilkinson, Arthur Lennard, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Wentworth Croke's Co., "Cinderella."

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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The Committee meet at 69, Kennington-road, the first and third Friday in every month at 3.30 to consider applications for admittance to the Home.

J. SPARROW, Secretary.

M. H. A. R. A.

and
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NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Betty Green, Ryan and Hall, Gwennie Morgan, Wincklers, Mazuz, Corbin, Morice and Rolfe, and Anna Dorothy. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JANUARY 6, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Arthur Bourchier and Violet Vanbrugh in "Pearls," Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Pebbles on the Beach," Gerald Griffin & Co. in "Other People's Money," Zona Vevey, Jack Lorimer, Baron's Menagerie, Sergt. Brennan, Borsini Troupe, Bioscope.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Three Musketeers," Three Diamonds, Selection, Bioscope, Tom Jones, Mason and Bart.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Charles Austin & Co. in "The Bombshell," Bowden and Stol, Mlle. Marjutti, Park's Eton Boys, The Whittakers, Bioscope, Tom Costello, Zenga Troupe, Christine Roy, Little Ganty.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Flyaway's Derby," Louis J. Seymour, Arthur Woodville, Rosie Archer, The Falcons, Piquo, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser, Holden's Mannikins, Beth Tate.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Ernie Lotinga & Co. in "Bluebottles," Hayman and Franklyn, Fred Storey in "Rip Van Winkle," Ben Albert, Irene Penso, J. H. Scotland, Bioscope, Raffin's Monkeys, Cooper Mitchell, Belle Davis' Cracker-Jacks.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Aladdin," Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
"The Window of the Haunted House," Hinton and Wootton, Bioscope, Guy and Grahame, The Harlequinaders, Herbert La Martine, Leslie Harris, Footgers.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"The Smuggler," Sanford and Lyons, De Breans, Will Hay, The Joseph Adelmann Family, Jules and Bella Terry, Stein Esthor Troupe, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Wilkie Bard, The Venetians, Stylo Duo, Irene Millar, Sammy Shields, Hemming and Free, Little Ettie Howard, Bioscope, Alex Piccad Troupe.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Brothers Luck, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Speedwell, Bioscope, Bert Weston, Rhoda Paul, Coram, Mlle. Melita.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Sands of Dee," Carlisle and Wellmon, Deborah Volar & Co., Conway George, Goliath, Bioscope, The Four Elles, Rinaldo, Alburtus and Millar.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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All Communications, Bill Matter, Lithos, Plots, &c., to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address: "Broadhead, Manchester."
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 6, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "Bo-Peep." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Pavilion. Pictures, and Company as booked.

BURY — Hippodrome. — Correze and Keith, Sisters Selwyn, Jean Alexandre, O'Malleys, and Company as booked, **2.**

ECCLES—Orown Theatre. — Three Stork Bros., Jack Cavalli, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—The Meymotts, Four Charles, Beale and Broadway, Frank Cass, Talbot and Pearce, Horace White, Pictures, Guest and Newlyn, and Company as booked. **2.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre. Andie Caine's Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "Mother Goose." **2.** Matinee, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's Co. in "The Great White Chief." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—H. O. Will's Pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." **11.** Matinées, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Billy Williams, Lily Lester, Bradshaw and Brookes, Woodward and Page, Jim Max, Sydney Brandon, Bart and Bart, Darnell & Co. **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Animated Pictures, Dancing, &c.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Jordan and Harvey, Ted Mercell, Jock McNeil, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto. Behrwalls, and Company as booked. **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON—New King's Palace.—Will open shortly.

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — Lew Lake, Fred Wright, Shirley Sparks, Lola Charm, Goodalls, Jacko, Chas. Denham, The Stellios, Irving and Jasmin, Minerva Troupe. **2.** Matinée, Tuesday, **2.30.**

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
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New Songs:
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Huge Success.
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Happy New Year to all.

Booked Moss' Empires, Tivoli, Oxford, Pavilion, Syndicate, Gibbons, &c.
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The Dapper Dandy Boy.
Dec. 30, Empire, Burnley.
Jan. 6, EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.
Tom Claxton and Co.

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PANTOMIME.
Jan. 6, HIPPODROME, ROTHERHAM.

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Coms., Mr. H. Thurston.

MISS BERTIE ADAMS.
As June Pomeroy, in "Autumn Manœuvres."
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Miss Bertie Adams' portrayal of June Pomeroy was played with a "naivete" altogether charming, and her song, "Daddy dear," was one of the best-rendered numbers of the evening.
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"Twinkle Little Star,"
PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE,
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Great Success as Elvira, "Cinderella,"
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One of the ladies who play there sisterly parts was "the life of the production," for rollicking humour she can give many male experts in low comedy a long start and a good beating. In her song, "Oh, Mary, I'm surprised at you," she invested a liberal fund of humour and vivacity.—"Irish Independent," Dec. 27.
Miss Dolly Harmer as Elvira acted well and sang well, her rendering of the comic song, "Oh, Mary," being a "marked success."—"Freeman's Journal," Dec. 27.
Offers invited for Spring. Musical Comedy.

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Goody Two Shoes.
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